

blown  
away



The dragon 2007



# Summer 4

Month 6  
Sports 8



Junior  
Lauren Kacere



Juniors Paula Cruzen,  
Veronica Roshek,  
and Lauren Lund



Junior Lindsey Tosch



Sophomore Jeremy Mullen

# Spring 96

Months 88  
Core 94  
Explore 98  
Sports / Organizations 102





Junior Zach Larimer



Juniors Sam Han and Cody Gordon

## Fall 12

Months 14

Core 20

Explore 24

Sports / Organizations 28

## Winter 50

Months 52

Core 58

Explore 62

Sports / Organizations 66



Seniors Brie Bumpus and Alexa Johnson



Senior Graham Emmerson







With the wind blowing, junior Isabelle Leysens fights to hold onto her umbrella. The strength of the gusts surprised Leysens as she walked to her house on a blustery day in February.





2007 dragon. volume 60.

enrollment<sup>T</sup> 1,178

6501 nw 62nd avenue

Johnston, iowa 50131

(515) 278-0449

fax (515) 276-5791

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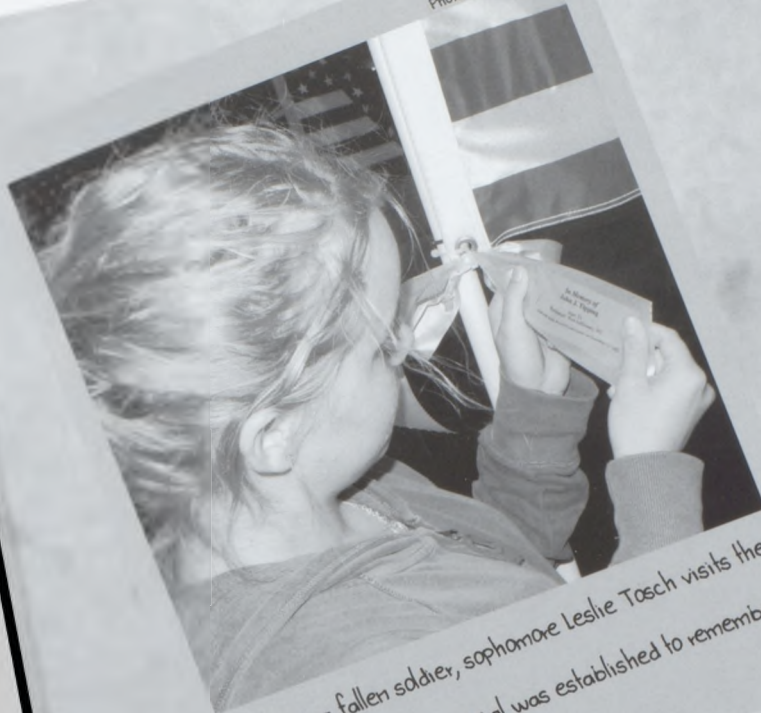


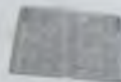
Photo by Erin Funk

Identifying a fallen soldier, sophomore Leslie Tosch visits the flag memorial. The memorial was established to remember fallen soldiers with flags.

A gust of wind swept through the halls of Johnston High School keaving everyone blown away in its wake. We had settled into our comfort zone as a three-grade school and bnew changes were set to take place.

Students and faculty navigated through orange cones and road blocks as construction on 62nd Avenue, West of 86th street, closed the rad for a better half of the school year and 250 new parking spacesmade room for our ever expanding student body. Clay Guthmiller stepped in to fill the failry large shoes of Dr. Dick Sunblad, retiring after 16 years; and democratic Governor Chet Culver took office following the dramatic change in power in congress, handing control over to to the democrats for the first time in 13 years.

Holding on to some history, Johnston Station develeoped along Merle HAY Road housing a very popular Panera Bread and one of the up and coming 24/7 fitness centers. Student Council played a large role in fundraising to nurse sports trainer Mark Pierson back to health, raising \$300 dollars in their "Muffins for Mark" bake sale; and the underclassmen began to worry as new admissions requirements were put into effect, placing a higher emphasis on academics. As you step through our book notice the change in seasons to help you better navigate your year in chonological order and watch as we take in our blustery year. Spread by David Zorn, Copy by Kiley Dewhurst





## Challenging Battles

spread by david zorn

The Cory's Courage golf benefit for graduate Cory Shannon's tragic accident blew the Shannon family away when 250 golfers showed their support by playing in a two day event. In a different field, tears ended a long fought out battle for the softball team.

Students ventured south to the Lonestar state and the Big Apple to study performing art on the big stage and junior Michelle Wallace proudly claimed the Iowa Idol title as the second Johnston winner following '06 graduate Alexis vanVleet.  
Copy by Kiley Dewhurst

summer

photo by Ciera Lundgren



Junior Audrey Herring blows into a blade of grass between her fingers during the Indiana hot air balloon festival. Herring was showing off her sound-making abilities to the fellow members of a theater camp she was attending.



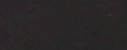


Photo by Abby Weaver

Junior Gera Lundgren grimaces in anticipation of water hitting her face during an afternoon of water fun in her backyard. Lundgren decided to have friends over in her pool during an especially hot day in July.

23

10

25





photo by Leah Kron

Junior Derek Riecks screams to his friends on a houseboat in August. "If you're on a houseboat, the first thing you think of doing is jumping off the top," Riecks said. The boat belonged to junior Paula Cruzen.



photo by Ciera Lundgren

At the Indianola Balloon Festival in late July, junior Lauren Kacere enjoys the summer weather and balloons. Kacere attended the festival while participating in the Simpson Theater Camp. "The camp was very fun," Kacere said. "It was very small and intimate. There were only a dozen of us."

Performing an ollie, senior David Derry skates downtown on a steamy summer day in July. "(I skate) wherever— anywhere in Des Moines. I went pretty much everyday (over the summer)," Derry said.



photo by Erin Funk

photo by Dan Haight

Readying their cameras, juniors Samantha Dearden and Allison McGrew attend the Brad Paisley concert at the Iowa State Fair in August. "My friends and I just recently got into country music and had a blast listening to our favorite songs while wearing our cowboy hats," McGrew said.



photo by Ciera Lundgren

# summer...

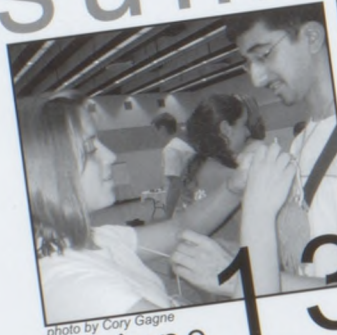


photo by Cory Gagne

June 13  
Junior Katherine Burgergraf ties a warm fuzzy around Valley sophomore Ajeet Singh's neck as part of Iowa's Youth Training Core for Character's training week. "We had a lot of fun staying in the Drake dorms for a week," Burgergraf said.



photo by Caitlin Larkin

August 18  
Attempting to make some summer money, junior Hana Katazovic works at Hy-Vee in August. "Working in the wine section didn't feel like work at all actually," Katazovic said. "It was a really diverse area."



Susan K. Amphith  
provided by Lorraine Wallace

August 20  
An alternate in the Iowa Idol competition, junior Michelle Wallace performs at the State Fair in August. "It was such a relief once I was done performing," Wallace said. "I was finally able to relax."



photo by Katie Norris

August 22  
Putting her squeegee to good use, junior Alyssa Buckley washes a car for the dance team fundraiser. Money raised went to supporting the team by funding costumes, trips and props for the girls.



Smiling wildly, sophomores Jessica Rice and Molli Kipp sit on top of a John Deere tractor at the Green Days Festival. The annual festival took place outside of the Johnston Public Library June 15-18 and included concerts as well as a carnival. A few Johnston students' bands played at the festival, including the band Tomorrow's Storm, of which seniors John Miller and Brian Smith were members.





# Cory and the Community Stand Strong

[Citizens help their own fight back after life-altering accident]

photo by Dorian Byrd



Swinging for his brother, senior Tyler Shannon participates in the golf fundraiser held in August at Johnston Ridge. "All of the people that showed blew my mind," Shannon said.

Life-altering moments could sometimes happen in a matter of seconds. Former students Ben Langwith, Cory Shannon, Ried Baker and Tiffany Lewis found this out firsthand as they took a lake road corner a little too fast on Sun., July 16. After losing control on a gravel road, the car flipped in the air once, ejecting Cory and Baker from the right side, then rolled two more times, before landing in a ditch. Even though both Cory and Ried were ejected, Cory was the only one that sustained serious injuries.

"When I first found Cory, we were all in shock," Lewis said. "He was so worried about my arm which got burned from the seat belt. I just started bawling because he cared so much about me despite the condition he was in."

As help arrived, Cory was rushed to the Mercy Intensive Care Unit (ICU). He had broken the t-6 and t-7 vertebrae located on the upper area of the spine. Doctors didn't think that Cory would be able to walk again.

"It absolutely crushed us," Lewis said, "to have all walked away with minor injuries, when he was hurting like that."

Cory spent the next 40 days in the ICU. He wasn't alone though; the waiting room was almost always full. "The amount of people that came to support Cory was amazing," mother Maureen Shannon said. "I couldn't believe how many people came, and how fast they found out."

A few days after the accident the waiting room was transformed into a thinking room. The idea of a golf event, to be held for his benefit, emerged.

"It was orchestrated and run by all of his friends," Johnston Ridge Golf Course owner Cindy Johnson said. "It was all college kids who did it, and it was a huge success."

Cory's Courage, the theme of the event, was held over two days and attracted 250 golfers. "All of the people that showed blew my mind," brother Tyler Shannon said.

After Cory was stable enough he was transferred to Craig Hospital, a rehabilitation and research center specifically for patients with spinal cord injuries, in Englewood, Co. During his stay Cory was closely watched and went through intense physical therapy to help with his recovery.

Cory made much progress in Craig Hospital, even though it sometimes seemed slow. Friends stayed up to date and in touch through visits, cards and a website called "Care pages," where they could view his status daily.

After four months, Cory was discharged from Craig Hospital on Oct. 26 and returned home just in time to watch the last Dragon football game. The crowd greeted Cory with a standing ovation as he entered.

At home, Cory continued to recover, and enrolled back into college at Iowa City for the spring semester which was his goal all the way through his recovery process. Friends and family, however, were even more impressed that he returned without a wheel chair; he took with him only one crutch.

"We left Mercy with a zero chance of Cory ever walking; we know now that his progress is truly a miracle from God," Maureen Shannon said. Spread by Cory Gagne and Alle Moffit



"I met some of my most amazing friends in Detroit and definitely gained more independence. I studied with some awesome teachers and improved my technique. More than anything, though, I learned a lot about myself and gained confidence and identity."  
-Jenny Pray '08





# Team tries for some togetherness

## Team pushes rivalries aside to build friendships

Although many honors were bestowed upon some individual members of the varsity team--four players went all-conference, three went all-district, and one went all-state--that wasn't their only accomplishment. Closer relationships were established on and off the field through bonding activities; players took time outside of practice to get to know each other. "In order to have success you have to have fun," senior Austin Denny said.

In previous years, rivalries between players were not uncommon. The team realized that something needed to change, so they began spending time with each other when they were not on the playing field. Some of the activities they took part in were camping, boating, eating, and basketball. "We all played AAU (baseball) together," senior Josh Gowdy said. "We're all friends and love the game of baseball; that's important." Not only did getting to know one another improve the teammates' relationships with each other, it also made a huge impact on how well they played the game.

The teammates felt that their newfound friendships helped to make the members better team players. "We didn't care how the stats looked," Gowdy said.



According to junior Bryan Lippincott, along with better cooperation and a looser environment due to closer relationships, a greater respect for one another's teammates was also acquired. "Everybody knew their role," Lippincott said. "We knew when to have fun, but we also knew when to be serious."

Although the building of personal relationships within the team increased good conditions on the playing field, team unity as a whole was the best outcome of bonding, according to head coach Randy Wee. "Unity for the team was more important than unity with each other," Wee said. "They had to be able to pick each other up when they aren't doing their best."

The effort put into the season had affected the team's outlook on how important synchronization with each other was. "Baseball is a team concept," Lippincott said. "One individual can't win a game."

*spread by Bethany Christenson and Caitlin Larkin*

“[In baseball,] anything can happen. It's not over till it's over.”

-Austin Denny '03

Junior Danny Cahill digs his feet into the dirt as the Fort Dodge catcher aims to retrieve the ball. Cahill was first team all-conference and second team all-district.



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

Waiting for the ball to hit the glove, sophomore Troy DuBay outstretches his arm for the catch. Dowling player Matt McClavy missed the pitch allowing DuBay to snag the ball. DuBay received the honor of being second team all-conference.



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

Preparing for the bunt, senior Rob Lang keeps a steady eye on the ball as coach Randy Wee watches with suspense in the background. "The two seniors (Lang and Kyle McCracken) brought their unselfish ways to the team," Wee said. "They picked each other up when things didn't go the way they planned."

photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hoover 4-5</li> <li>Hoover 8-1</li> <li>Marshalltown 4-7</li> <li>Boone 8-2</li> <li>Lewis Central 2-11</li> <li>North Scott 4-8</li> <li>Lincoln 0-5</li> <li>Lincoln 2-7</li> <li>East 10-15</li> <li>East 6-11</li> <li>Urbancade 12-0</li> <li>Urbancade 2-8</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Antony 1-2</li> <li>Antony 4-3</li> <li>Southeast Polk 5-0</li> <li>Dowling 11-6</li> <li>Dowling 0-1</li> <li>Ames 5-4</li> <li>C.R. Kennedy 8-1</li> <li>Decorah 11-9</li> <li>Indianola 8-4</li> <li>Urbancade 2-4</li> <li>Urbancade 5-3</li> <li>Urbancade 6-2</li> <li>Roosevelt 6-4</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Saydel 7-4</li> <li>Antony 9-8</li> <li>Antony 8-4</li> <li>Southeast Polk 7-2</li> <li>Southeast Polk 11-8</li> <li>Ames 12-1</li> <li>Fort Dodge 8-4</li> <li>Fort Dodge 4-7</li> <li>Dowling 18-9</li> <li>Dowling 8-15</li> <li>Sioux City East 9-12</li> <li>Lewis Central 4-0</li> <li>Indianola 12-2</li> <li>East 1-11</li> </ul>
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Second Team All-State  
Austin Denny

First Team All-District  
Austin Denny  
Denny Cahill

Second Team All-District  
Josh Gowdy

First Team All-Conference  
Austin Denny  
Denny Cahill

Second Team All-Conference  
Tray DuBay  
Greg Carpenter

Honorable Mention All-Conference  
Josh Gowdy  
Ryan Torgerson  
David Temple  
Jonathan Bunting  
Rob Lang  
Kyle McCracken

photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

Grimacing as the dirt flies into the air, junior Jake Pfundheller completes his slide into third base. Pfundheller was a pinch runner for the varsity team.

photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

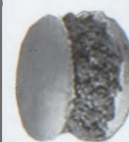
Junior Jonathan Bunting leans into the ground ball hit during the first game in a double header against Fort Dodge. This was a win for Johnston, but they fell short in the second game.

photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

Senior Kyle McCracken makes a daring slide to third as his opponent leaps into the air. The first game of the double header against Dowling Catholic was a success, but they went on to lose the second game.

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baseball | 9



# Pain slowly fades Away

## Softball Girls Deal With Lost Chances of State

The game was over. The girls turned downtrodden to center field where they met after each game and typically rejoiced. Coach Todd Merical fought back his tears as he spoke words that were blurred in his memory. "(He) said something like 'you're not going to get over it in 24 hours. It's going to hurt for awhile,'" words sophomore Veronica Roshek recalled. This statement wasn't meant to ease the pain because for some, only time would.

Some players went days, others weeks before they got a small sense of relief from the harsh blow of their loss at the Fort Dodge semifinals; losing 1-0. "Everybody was in tears," senior Mackenzie Lang said. "It was really hard (when) I realized that it was over. It took awhile to get over it."

This loss didn't only affect the team but their families as well. Lang's brother sophomore Spencer Lang was just as rattled, "I was really upset. I was sad that it was my sister's last game. I didn't say much because I was crying. I tried to say it was a good season. You're going to move on to better things. She did a good job, things like that," Spencer Lang said.

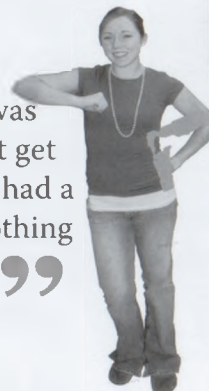
The bus ride home, though long to begin with, was harder than ever for the girls. "It was pretty much torture. We didn't talk the whole way home," sophomore Holly Von Fumetti said. "We knew we all felt the same and no one was in the mood to talk. (Seeing Merical) that was difficult, I respect him so much. We definitely play for ourselves and coaches and fans too. He wanted it more than anyone and knew we could do it. It felt like we let him down. We knew he wasn't disappointed in us, (but) it was (still) really hard."

Despite the loss of the game and qualification for state, seniors remained uplifting to their younger teammates. "(When) we got off the bus, it felt like the right time to say goodbye to the seniors," Roshek said. "Mac (Mackenzie Lang) came at me with the words 'You're going to do so great. This isn't going to be the end. I couldn't have asked for a better senior year.' That made me start crying again. It was a really emotional moment that ended our playing together."

This loss had such an effect that players and coaches had trouble letting it go. "I haven't gotten over it. You can reflect back, it was one of the hardest losses, I as a coach, endured." Merical said, "The girls didn't quit and up until the last out we (the coaching staff) thought we were going to win. The biggest positive (was that) everyone ran to one another. Players were there to console each other. There was no finger pointing. I couldn't have coached a better group of girls." *Spread by Katie Norris and Kayla Gathercole*

“The rest of the season was really great and (we) can't get hung up on one loss. We had a good season. We have nothing to hang our heads about.”

-Kari Dockum '08



Gliding into a split, senior Sarah Peppmeier makes the catch for an out. Peppmeier had played softball for five years at the varsity level. She played first base and was a letter winner all five years.



photo: Riley Dewhurst

Wearing a grin to her teammates before the start of their game, freshman Abby Sonner laughs during a brief impromptu infield meeting with senior teammates Libbie Reichling and Sarah Peppmeier.

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# Catch

photo by Kiley Dewhurst

Pitching against Dowling High School, senior Libbie Reichling winds up to launch the ball past home plate. "I just can't even imagine not playing the game. I love the way it feels to go out and play, and to meet new people, and to have fun," Reichling said.



photo by Kiley Dewhurst



photo by Kiley Dewhurst



photo by Kiley Dewhurst



photo by Kiley Dewhurst

Running past second base, junior Emily Kuster races to third base. Kuster was known on the team for her flexibility between positions. "Her versatility has made our team stronger," coach Todd Merical said.

Reaching forward for a catch, sophomore Leah Embrey snatches up the ball during a game against Dowling. This was Embrey's first time catching at the varsity level. "It really was a lot more competitive than middle school," Embrey said.

Senior Abby Morris slides to her knees and catches the ball for an out. Morris was a five-year starter and only the third softball player in school history to win first team all-state honors.



DH Lincoln 1-0	Cardinal 15-8	Boone 30-5
DH Lincoln 2-0	@ Linn-Mar 15-4	Fort Dodge 31-5
DH East 3-0	CRY Xavier 16-4	Fort Dodge 32-5
DH East 4-0	Salon 17-4	@ Dowling 32-6
Ames 5-0	Indianola 18-4	Dowling 32-6
DH Lincoln 6-0	Indianola 19-4	Van Hester 34-6
Winterset 7-0	Urbandale 20-4	@ North Polk 34-7
Urbandale 8-0	Urbandale 21-4	Indianola 35-7
Urbandale 9-0	Nevada 22-4	Ames 36-7
Antony 10-0	Macrid 23-4	Ames 37-7
Antony 11-0	Boone 24-4	Indianola 38-7
Lone Tree 12-0	Antony 25-4	Indianola 39-7
Albia 13-0	Antony 26-4	DH Hoover 40-7
@ SEP 13-1	Marshalltown 27-4	DH Hoover 41-7
@ SEP 13-2	Marshalltown 28-4	@ WUDH 41-8
@ Dowling 13-3	@ SEP 28-5	Boone 42-8
Dowling 14-3	SEP 29-5	@ Fort Dodge 42-9

#### First Team All-Conference

Abby Morris  
Lottie Reckling  
Sarah Peconier  
Mackenzie Lang

#### Second Team All-Conference

Jenna Jewell  
Emily Kuster  
Veronica Roedel

#### Honorable Mention All-Conference

Ashley Jones-Finetti  
Leah Embrey

#### Academic All-Conference

Lottie Reckling  
Mackenzie Lang  
Emily Kuster  
Leah Embrey  
Ashley Jones-Finetti  
Veronica Roedel  
Jenna Jewell

#### IGCA All-District

Abby Morris  
Mackenzie Lang  
Lottie Reckling

#### IGCA Senior All-State Teams

Mackenzie Lang  
Lottie Reckling

#### IA HSAA All-State Teams

First Team- Abby Morris  
Second Team- Lottie Reckling  
Third Team- Mackenzie Lang  
Honorable Mention- Sarah Peconier



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photo by Matthew Courtney



photo by Matthew Courtney

Looking to the base coach for directions, eighth grader Cassie Curtis runs towards home. "I slid into home base, but the umpire said that my foot didn't quite touch the base," Curtis said. "It was really disappointing, but I also felt really proud of myself. I knew that I had still done a good job."

Passing first base, sophomore Alexa Guessford steals a glance at the current play as she runs toward second base. "She was a very valuable base runner for our team," said coach Todd Merical. "So many plays come down to a single run, so it's vital that our team has some quick and intelligent base runners that can be inserted into the line up."

softball | 11





fall

## New Year, New Legacies

spread by Kiley Dewhurst and Grace Meiners

Students walked into the building August 28 to find the school reaching to higher altitudes. Shiny televisions appeared in the hallways, lunchroom, commons, and every classroom playing video announcements on a continual circuit while the physical education curriculum changed drastically. The year breezed by for five teachers as they anticipated retirement and government teacher Jackie Norris accessed her connections and flew in the candidates for Governor and Congress and paraded them in front of the senior class.

An explosion erased all evidence of a seeded football field bringing in loads of rubber tire pieces and \$800,000 to create the first field of turf in the CIML. The boys' cross country team took districts for the first title win in Dragon history while the volleyball team made an appearance at the state tournament. Copy by Kiley Dewhurst



Photo by Antonio Rodriguez

History teacher Alicia Ralison passes out sheet during the fall retreat for Students Active in Leadership (SAIL). The leadership team concentrated on familiarizing the new motto "Imagine, Invest, Inspire" with the student body.



photo by Kiley Dewhurst



Government teacher Jackie Norris, seniors Amanda Lower and Meredith Manning laugh during a game of hi-ya. Norris took her class to City Hall during the Nov. 7 elections and decided to have some fun afterward on the high school lawn.

photo by Felicia Hoover



Senior, drum majors Hannah Wagner, Makea Sanders, Kelsey Kramer, and junior Tim Clay give the okay to band director Patrick Kearney during band camp. The drum majors were showing Kearney the band was ready to perform.





photo by Allison McGrew

Singing into a mic, junior Tim Banta practices with fellow bandmates junior Nathan Heeler, senior Blake Wheeler, and seventh grader Ryan McGrew. Banta played lead guitar and did vocals for the band Silent Sound. They had practice five times a week at McGrew's house.

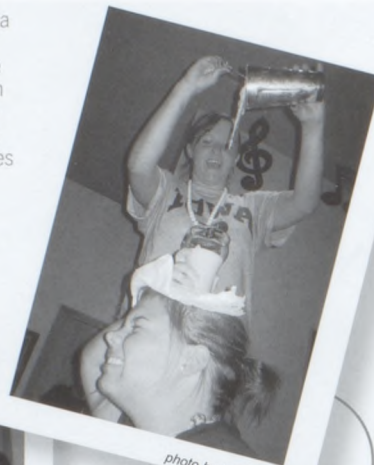


photo by Kiley Dewhurst

Senior Hannah Levine awaits tasting her peanut butter milkshake as it's poured on her head by senior Megan DeLanoit. "We all thought it was fun and were in a giddy mood so we went for it," Levine said.

Laughing uncontrollably, junior Alyssa Burcham explores the playground at Lawson Elementary. Burcham and her friends had just gotten done eating at Encore Pizza Company and wanted to do something. "It was too late to go to a movie but too early to head home," Burcham said.

photo by Abby Weaver



photo provided by Kayla Gathercole

Members of the varsity show choir hang out at senior Matt Burch's house to get to know one another after a choreography practice. "We never got a chance to do it last spring with last year's group, so we did it this year as a kick-off thing instead of as a finale thing," senior Chris Williamson said.



photo by Ciera Lundgren

# september...



photo by Erin Funk

Sophomore Lesley Tosch stands in a field in Clive looking at nameplates of those lost on Sept. 11, 2001. "It was sad to see how many people had died. You hear numbers but once you saw it, it was pretty sad," Tosch said.



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

Sophomore Taylor Cheshnut scoops up some mashed potatoes before adding butter and corn to them on potato bar day. Potato bar day was a day that the cafeteria offered potatoes instead of pasta. "Well I like potatoes, but it was sort of weird not having pasta like normal," Cheshnut said.



photo by Caitlin Larkin

Junior Jeremy Biggs and freshman Maddie Graham talk about golf as they wait for their waiter at Bennigan's. Afterward Biggs and Graham went to Bigg's house to watch a movie.



photo by Amanda Gabbert

Sophomore Samantha Meyer holds her father's birthday cake at Friday Night Lights. Friday Night Lights was held at St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Johnston after varsity football games where people could hang out with friends.



Standing with her sisters, senior Kayla Gathercole talks to Paige Hemmis of Extreme Makeover Home Edition. Gathercole's uncle, TJ Moberg, was asked to sculpt the front of a car for one of the children's rooms in Gladbrook, Iowa.

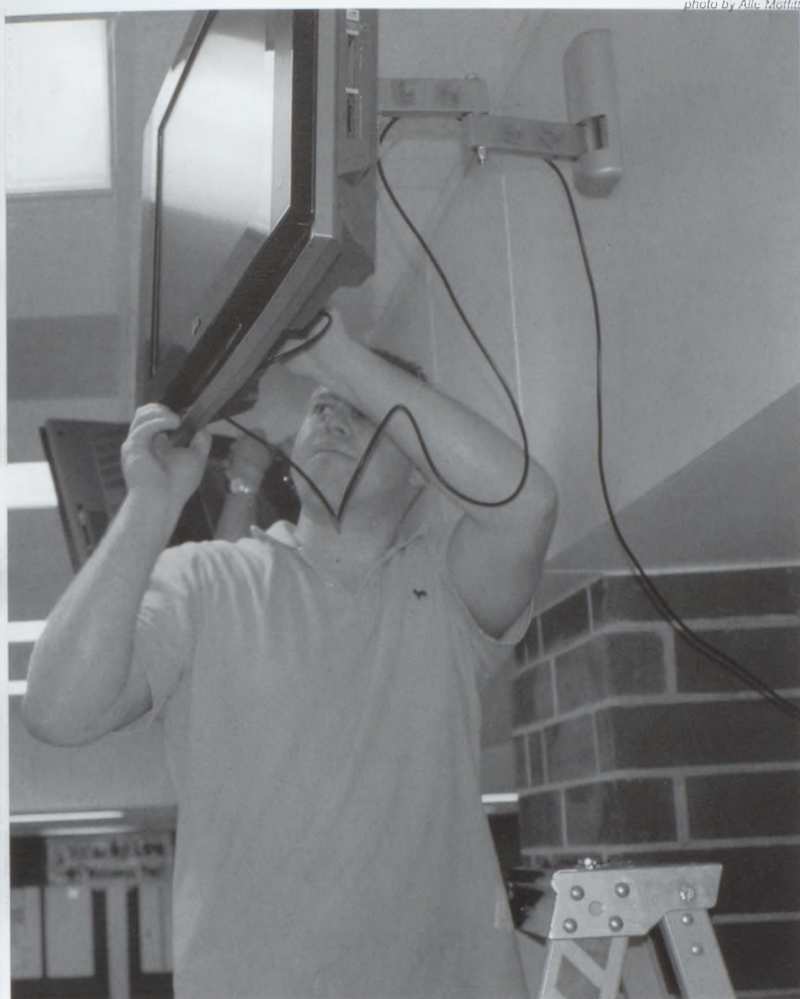


# Infusing *hallways* **with** Plasma Technology

[New television technology sparks debate]



photo by Alie Moffitt



Standing on a ladder in the commons area, Jeff Olthoff, a field technician, hooks up the new TVs. Olthoff described it as "a long and grueling project," and said that he felt awkward to stand on a ladder and hoist them up and down.

In an age where technology edged its way into every aspect of human life, it was a rare case in which students didn't want televisions everywhere they went. On this assumption, district administration thought they were providing a much-needed jump into the technological age when they installed plasma screen televisions in early September. What began was the beginning of a debate regarding the spending of school funds.

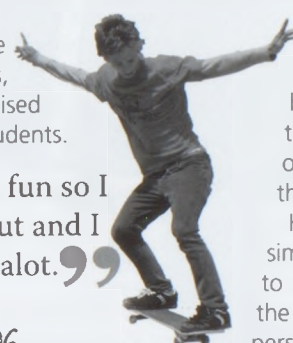
"I'm sickened (by the purchase of the TVs). There are more important things the school could be spending money on: the after-school programs or the arts," senior Christine Schempp said.

Principal Bruce Hukee disagreed and stated that the administration's use of money was always prioritized. "(The TVs) did not take away from other purchases the staff requested," Hukee said.

However, the installation of the new televisions in the hallways, offices and even the cafeteria raised questions and dissent among students.

“(Skating) looked fun so I decided to try it out and I ended up liking it alot.”

-Chris Schnell '06



Some saw the televisions as a catalyst for information. "I like that they play announcements every day. I just wish I had a chance to actually watch them more often," junior Sam Han said. "There's really no reason to be negative about it; people only are because everyone else is."

Some, however, questioned the televisions' usefulness rather than their expenditure. "They are kind of ridiculous," said sophomore Hannah Emmerson. "You can't even hear them! All you can do is watch peoples' mouths flapping without any sound."

Students in Video Production, the source of the constantly streaming announcements, viewed the televisions in a positive light. "They make our announcements seem like they're actually, you know, good," sophomore Nemenja Djuric said.

Junior Molly Larsen also felt that the TVs were an improvement to the announcement system but said, "It's weird coming in in the morning and seeing a bunch of people watching your face on the TV."

Hukee said that the administration simply wanted to find new ways to improve communication within the school. "I can understand that persons will see it as a waste, but they may not understand the full scope of it," he said. "I would think people need to wait and see how it can be used." *spread by Amanda Gabbert and Nicolette Ward*





photo by Katie Norris

Sophomore Devyn Lenaghan tunes her bass guitar before performing for her church, Zion Lutheran Church. Lenaghan also sang along with junior Katie Norris, seniors John Miller and Jennailee Williams.



photo by Matthew Courtney

Practicing during the off-season, sophomore Jon Kruger played tennis with junior Orin Xie, also a member of the tennis team. It was one of the many warm days that Johnston had with temperatures in the 70s.



photo by David Zorn

While riding a horse for the second time of his life, senior Nate Nuzum smiles at one of the fellow riders. Nuzum was attending his mom's office party that was held at an Ankeny horse ranch. "It's kind of fun, it bends your knees inward so you have trouble walking straight after you get off," Nuzum said.



photo by Kiley D.

photo by Erin Funk

# october...

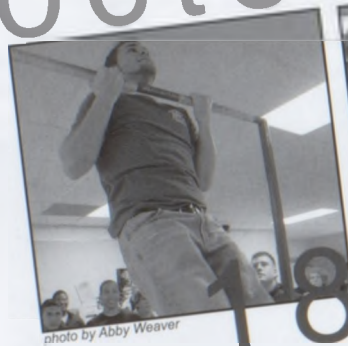


photo by Abby Weaver

Pushing out some chin-ups, junior Troy DuBay tries to win a water bottle from the Marines. The Marines offered water bottles to any student that could correctly complete 15 pull-ups. DuBay was able to finish six and walked away empty-handed.



photo by Nicolette Ward

Visiting his friend at Target, junior Evan Stone talks to senior Samantha Pessalano. Pessalano was working in the electronics section when Stone arrived to buy the new *My Chemical Romance* CD.

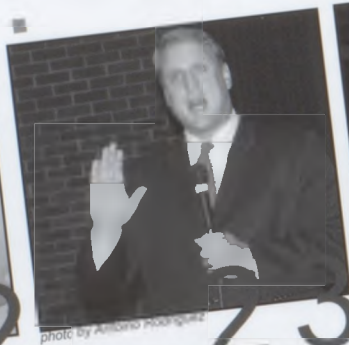


photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Chet Culver speaks to government students on Mon., Oct. 23. "I thought it was really important for the seniors to hear the candidates themselves and hear how they addressed the issues about young people," government teacher Jackie Norris said. Culver went on to become governor of Iowa.



photo by Sammy McConeghey

Digging into a cheese stick at her 16th birthday party, junior Audrey Henning celebrated her birthday with friends and a party at Chuck E. Cheese. Her party included many things like dancing with Chuck E. Cheese and the other characters, playing in the fun zone, and eating lots of food.



Sophomore Lindsey Timmons smiles down at her music and her vocal coach Anne Stein while they work on an Italian song "Oh Cesate." "She tells me to sing out of my mask, which is the area on your face around your eyes and mouth," Timmons said. "I have issues with singing out of my throat."





# Vivacious volleyball Fans Bring on Victories

[More fans Cheer on Team's Success]



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein



Watching the semi-final volleyball game against Waukegan, junior Josh Camos and senior Tyler Shannon come out and support the volleyball team on their quest to state. Shannon wore a different hat than what the girls had handed out. He decided he wanted to make his own.

"Huddle!" seniors Kellen Johnson and Jonathan Bunting called out from the front row. They stood on the ground in front of the bleachers facing the crowd; some even leaned over to hear what was going on. The large group of fans huddled and called out a football play from their season during varsity volleyball timeouts and in between games. "It was usually football players that went into the huddle and we would just call out a football play and stick with that unless they were doing bad then we would switch the play," junior Troy DuBay said. "Usually when they hit 20 (points) we would all call out a special play."

Despite the talk of football plays, they weren't dressed in pads or cleats, the boys wore old, tight, volleyball jerseys, volleyball hats made by the girls, and jeans. These students had a job to accomplish; they had to cheer on the varsity volleyball team. "It wasn't as big last year," senior Troy Nielsen said. "And I guess it was because we were so much better this year. We had tons of fun doing it and we were friends with everyone on the team."

Many of the students "supported the spandex" when they came to watch the games, wearing the old volleyball jerseys they borrowed from the players. Another part of the fans wardrobe was their volleyball hats. It started with senior Connor Elmitt. He wore a volleyball hat he received from a 2006 graduate, Alexis Van Vleet. "They were trying to get people to the games so they gave it to me, to hopefully have more participation from the students," Elmitt said. "They also offered their jerseys and I guess it didn't work (in the previous years)." During the Ankeny game the girls that started threw out hats they made out of old volleyballs. The boys that caught them decided to wear them on their heads for the rest of the season.

The avid fans went to support the girls throughout the season, starting with the Lincoln game. "We have a lot more people (coming out and supporting us) and they know what's going on. They cheer at the right time and know what the hand signals are," varsity player, sophomore Kari Queck said.

The girls thanked them for the support they gave when they came to the game, and they got recognition from the parents as well. "The girls always said we did a good job and helped them, we pumped them up and kept them going, even parents came up to us and told us that we were doing a great job," DuBay said. *Spread by Olivia Schiefelbein*

"It's nice having the hot weather longer because you can go out and enjoy more outside activities before being cooped up inside and cold all winter."

-Nikki Sullivan '09







photo by Antonio Rodriguez

While history teacher Alicia Rollison assists, senior Erin Ballard checks off her name to board the bus for senior breakfast. "It was fun hanging out with friends, but the actual breakfast was kinda boring," said Ballard.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Seniors Jonatan Bunting and Matt Bengsten study old school pictures of themselves and other classmates. During senior breakfast, old pictures were given out so seniors could reminisce about their elementary school days.

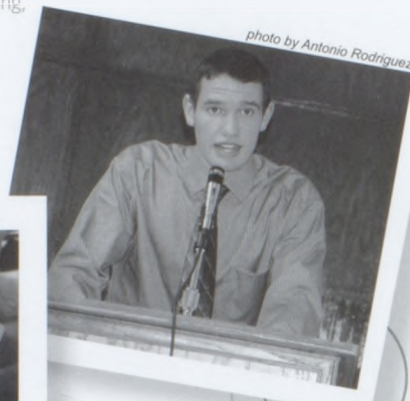


photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Senior Scott Cronin speaks to his fellow students at senior breakfast. Cronin spoke as a member of the Junior Senior Board, which organized the breakfast. Seniors ate at the Holiday Inn and listened to speeches made by teachers and students.



photo by Grace Mainers

photo by Grace Mainers

# november...



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Senator Leonard Boswell speaks to government students the day before mid-term elections. Boswell informed them of his views and also encouraged those eligible to vote.

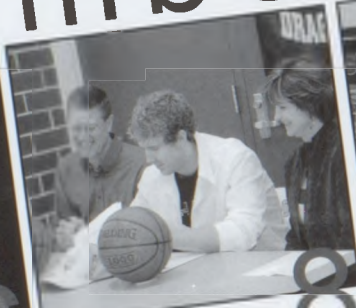


photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Parents Kurt and Amber Barz watch their son, senior Brent Barz, sign his contract with the University of Northern Iowa. Barz was recruited to play basketball at UNI while attending school there in the fall.



photo by Amanda Gebard

As sophomore Jessica Gedden leans over the pool table, she lines up her next shot. Gedden played pool and bowled with her friends at Warrior Lanes. "We were there celebrating my sixteenth birthday," Gedden said.



photo by Sam Dearden

On early dismissal, senior Emeri Sams pays for her food at Dairy Queen. "I was paying at a discounted price because of my Maestro card," Sams said.



Returning from the Johnston City Hall, seniors Makea Sanders, Katie Howe, and Rachel Bassel play hi-ya before returning to class. "We came back early from watching voting in action so we decided to play hi-ya," Sanders said.



Seniors Eric Stodola and Alex Guns



# Car crashes Cause Havoc

[ High School Accidents make Drama ]



Junior Jenny Pray

The early dismissal Nov. 2 sent students off in different directions. Some were waiting to decide where to go while others just wanted to go home. However, for sophomore Kaeliegh Gebord, going home was not the only place she was headed, because an unforeseen visit to the doctor soon took place.

"I wasn't paying attention, and I ran into a car," junior Nick Bass said. "(then) they ran into three other cars." This hit caused a chain reaction that Gebord described as "a domino effect." Bass, with passenger Aaron Schultz, began the collisions of cars by hitting junior J.R. Gray, who in effect hit sophomore Tyler Waltz and Gebord, who then proceeded to bump into sophomore Jake Forrester and his mom, Sue.

First reactions included coming out of shock for Bass, calling parents for Waltz and the realization of the damage done to the all cars. For one, sophomore Kaeleigh Gebord, physical effects surfaced later.

"I thought I was fine; (then) my neck (and) back started hurting," Gebord said. "I started not being able to see straight. I had a minor concussion (because my) head hit the window after I jammed back into it. My neck was sprained and (I had) severe whiplash from my head being turned." Gebord was the only one injured; however, she was feeling well enough to attend the Leadership Retreat the next day, though her concussion discomfort lasted until the following Tuesday.

Schultz and Waltz had been involved in accidents weeks before. "A week before, I hit someone, so I've been having bad luck," Waltz said. Waltz's car had been fixed just before the second accident totaled it. Left carless, Waltz had to go through the trouble of getting another car. "I had to get a ride to school every day," Waltz said. "I wanted my independence (back)."

Gray's and Waltz's cars were totaled. Forrester came out only needing a new bumper and tail pipe. Sue came out injury-free, but Jake was affected physically. "My back was pretty stiff for a couple of days," Forrester said. Bass was able to get his car repaired and returned two months later. "I was kind of laughing at first. I was pretty calm throughout it all," Gray said. "I knew it wasn't a good thing because I'd have to find a new car. Spread by Katie Norris and Erin Funk



"I go to FCA meetings because it is a fun environment and I get to hang out with my friends and other Christians that are athletes."  
-Tyler Smith '09

Looking at her shirt at Living History Farms, junior Megan Junge sorts through her Living History Farms Cross Country Race goody bag. Included in the bag were her race number and information about other races. "I don't do very well in the races, Junge said. "I just do it to get muddy!"



*Diana Lemas*

2323 48th Street  
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515.508.0120



# On the Right Track

## New P.E. tracks help improve participation, skill

After tossing the beach ball to her partner, junior Ally Hughes experienced her first game of adapted volleyball. Hughes enrolled in track eight P.E.O.P.E.L. PE, which participated in activities that suited special needs students. Track PE was developed to accommodate each students' particular interest in physical education. It also gave students the opportunity to learn new skills and get in shape. "It's different," Hughes said. "With different tracks, I get to meet new people and know people I've never met before when we are paired up in activities."

Students chose their top three preferred tracks at the end of the 2005-2006 school year and were assigned a class according to their schedule. The different tracks included individual fitness, individual and dual recreation activities, team activities and sports, body fitness and conditioning, aquatics (which took place outside of school), outdoor pursuits, P.E.O.P.E.L. PE and lifelong activities. The variety of choices given to students made the physical education department more diverse.

Track PE also changed the way students participated in their gym classes. For example, junior Andrew Smith thought that a boy in a class with mostly boys became more involved. "There are more boys in my class, so I try harder," he said. "Stats don't lie." Smith explained that the level of competition goes up when there were more boys because they wanted to be recognized for their accomplishments. Also, sophomore Courtney Aldridge thought that a girl in a class with mostly girls usually participated more. Aldridge said, "I don't feel comfortable around guys, so when there are more girls I do better."

Track PE not only got students to try harder, but some thought it also improved team building and character. "[In P.E.O.P.E.L. PE,] you feel better about yourself because you're helping someone out," Hughes said. "Even the smallest thing, like a smile, can make your day and their day." P.E.O.P.E.L. PE made regular activities more accessible to students with special needs, such as using a beach ball in gym volleyball.

To many students, gym was often a time they did not look forward to; after the concept of track PE was developed, some people felt it was a chance to better their bodies, ability to work with a team and even sometimes their minds. "Since you get to to choose what you do in track PE, you don't have an excuse not to try," Hughes said. "It makes people work harder." *spread by Caitlin Larkin and Ciera Lundgren*



photo by Grace Mieser



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

### Cooking

Taking a break from hiking, senior Lindsey Mabe, an Outdoor Pursuits student, uses the outdoor cooking equipment at Walnut Ridge. Students in Outdoor Pursuits and Lifelong Activities joined forces to make spaghetti.

### Voting

Government teacher Pat Hennes, seniors Josh Twinn and Troy Nielson walk around Johnston City Hall to observe democracy in action. "It is essential to the survival of our nation that current and future generations of citizens take an active roll in our government," Hennes said.

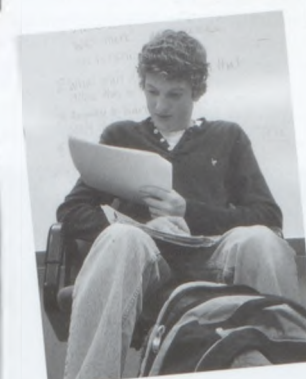


photo by Erin Funk

### Role Playing

In Melissa White's sophomore English class, sophomore Zach Jensen portrays the judge in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. "(Melissa) White makes English fun and is a sweet teacher," Jensen said.



photo by Erin Funk

### Crunch time

Reviewing for her world history final, sophomore Anna Kurns works on her vocabulary while teacher Alicia Rollison goes over the final packet. "I was looking for words in the back of the book that I couldn't remember," Kurns said.



# English



photo by Kiley Dewhurst

## Designing

Junior Jennifer Simpson creates a poster in Sarah Wessling's New Start English class. Students made movie posters based on the book *Monster* when they finished reading.

photo by Erin Funk



## Deep concentration

Sophomore Amra Beganovic reads *To Kill a Mockingbird* aloud in White's sophomore English class. "I enjoy English overall because it's easy for me," Beganovic said.

## Active reading

Junior Ryan Harm reads *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee during reading time in English teacher Melissa White's class. Students read the novel for a month and finished the unit with a paper.



photo by Erin Funk

# Physical Education

photo by Ciera Lundgren



## Trying something new

Junior Julia Steggerda stretches in physical education class track one during a Taebo workout video. "This year in (physical education), I am actually participating and going through all the moves, not just half way," Steggerda said.

photo by Grace Meiners



## Showing off

Junior Charlie Goff spins a basketball on his fingers during physical education. Students in track four participated in different team games in order to build teamwork.



photo by Allison McGrew

## Hit that Ping-Pong

Sophomore Kavin Benziger plays ping-pong in his track two gym class. Students in this track participated in activities focused on individual and dual fitness. Many activities included fencing, ping-pong, shuffleboard, tennis, and archery.



# Social Studies



“(U.S. history) is an easy class. (Pat) Hennes and (Pat) Mattingly always make jokes and it's cool they are joint teaching.”  
 Kate Kucera-'09



photo by Erin Funk

## Final Review

While world history teacher Alicia Rollison reviews for the final sophomore Tyler Smith works on finishing his worksheets in the review packet. Students were able to study in class for three days before the final.

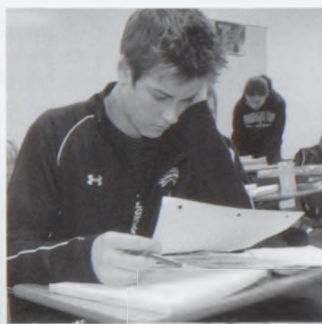


photo by Ciera Lunagren

## Hoping for Money

Junior Brady Johnson checks the stocks he "purchased" in Jerry Kinder's U.S. history class. For a week, students checked their stocks to see if they gained or lost money.

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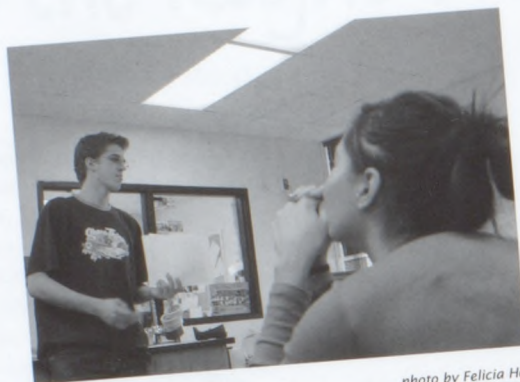


photo by Felicia Hoover

### Playing the part

Senior Ryan Brault portrays Charles Wilson, who invented the cloud chamber used for detecting particles of ionizing radiation, for a presentation in his physics class. "It was very interesting; you never realize how someone could create something so simple that would impact your life so much," Brault said.



photo by Felicia Hoover



photo by Emily Roeser

### Jaw Breaker

Senior Kristen Strawhacker and junior Ben Gass break the cat's jaw to see the back of the throat and the trachea in anatomy and physiology. "It's fascinating to learn about (the anatomy)," Strawhacker said, "like how all the different parts of the body that have to work together to let us walk and talk."

### Close to his work

Junior Tim Clay writes down his observations after doing a lab in AP chemistry to determine what reaction occurred after mixing certain known and unknown chemicals together. "Labs are always much better than class itself, and that one didn't require much work," Clay said.

Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus  
 AP Calculus AB, AP Statistics, Computer Science

## Mathematics



photo by Emily Roeser

**Navigating through**  
 Looking up at the projector, junior Cody Gordon makes sure the point he placed was in the correct quadrant when using the Navigator in Algebra II. "It was a new concept and different," Gordon said. "(Vickie) Borich ran through it with us though, so we got the hang of it."



"I don't think (having a different calculator) is a problem because I have Mr. Brooks and he understands and helps us."

-Abby Davis '07



photo by Emily Roeser

### Cleaning up

After doing a chemical reactions lab in AP chemistry, senior Katie Albers cleans a test tube. The lab involved mixing two chemicals together to see what reaction resulted. "It (lab) turned out alright," Albers said. "The hard part was doing the calculations afterwards."

### Lending a helping hand

Sophomore Katelyn Sunde gets help from math teacher Adam Retzlaff on a problem in geometry. Sunde's question, involved similar polygons, centered around setting up a ratio properly. "Math isn't my favorite (subject), but with Mr. Retzlaff he makes it fun and easy to understand," Sunde said.



photo by Felicia Hoover



photo by Megan Browning

# Craving a Class

## AP Physics Students Forced to Independently Study Course

As a junior, senior Taylor Grieve contemplated the classes that would fill her schedule her final year. Knowing she wanted to attend Iowa State University to study engineering, Grieve figured AP physics would prove useful. However, the course did not exist as a class. An independent study was the only way to gain the benefits of the course. After Grieve weighed her options and the advisor, science teacher Brad Jacobson, and senior Nate Nuzum, who was in the class, pushed her toward it, Grieve enrolled in the course.

Seniors Grieve, Nuzum, Sarah Timmons, and George Vardaxis met in Jacobson's room every day during first period, Jacobson's planning period. Another student, senior Dane Seaberg, independently studied the course, but he couldn't attend Jacobson's room first period due to a conflict with band. "It's not a huge bother. I still comprehend everything well, and if I ever have any major questions, I ask Jacobson before or after school," Seaberg said. He made up tests or labs before and after school.

Since it was an independent study course, the students essentially spent the year preparing for the AP test in the spring. This allowed the students to have deadlines throughout the year. "You can work at your own pace," Timmons said. "It's kind of detrimental to me sometimes because I put it off, but it can be nice."

Though AP physics technically received approval as an actual class to offer, it didn't meet the required minimum of ten students. Jacobson believed that enrollment would increase if it became a class.

According to Jacobson, offering it as a class would bring various benefits, like the ability to do more labs and listen to teacher lectures. "I would prefer to see it as a class," Jacobson said. "I recruit students in all my science classes and other (science and math) teachers recruit for me." Jacobson hoped eventually to have AP physics as an actual class, ideally with 24 students per class.

The students who took AP physics tended to agree with Jacobson in that some benefits of the course were lost when it had to be independently studied. "I think in some aspects it would be better in class. When you get the new information you haven't covered before, it's hard to make some of the connections and understand concepts behind them," said Vardaxis. *spread by Felicia Hoover and Emily Roeser.*

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Johnston Public Library

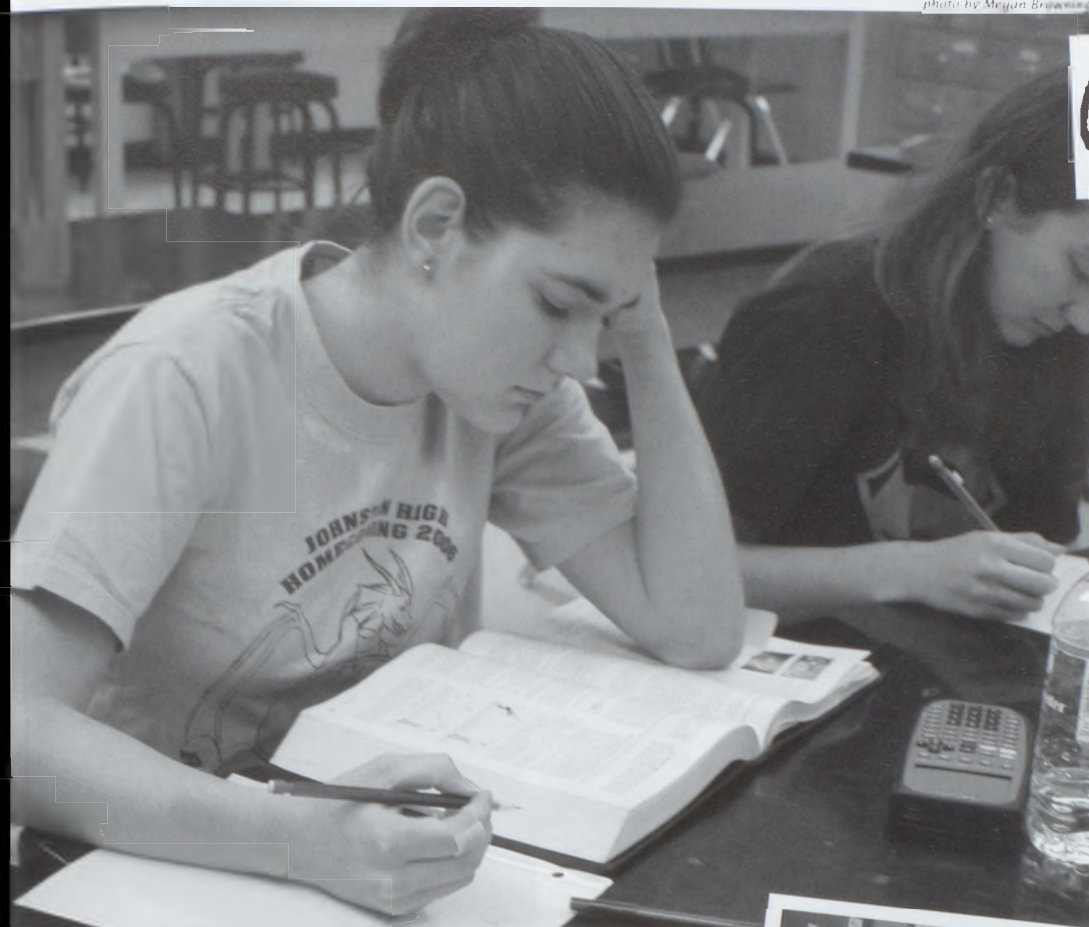
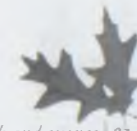


photo by Amanda Gabbert

### The sounds of silence

During her AP physics independent study period, senior Taylor Grieve reviews sound in her AP review book. "It's a little hard (to teach myself), but if I have problems I can just ask somebody," said Grieve. "For the most part, it's pretty straight forward."

### Mmmm, cytoplasm

Sophomore Molly Mellinger eats a cell in the form of confetti cake with a gumball nucleus in biology class. "(The activity) was fun," Mellinger said. "I plan on taking her (science teacher Kyla Burns) for advanced life sciences."



photo by Emily Roeser

### Testing the waters

During a pH lab in her chemistry class, junior Rachel Spurgin puts phenolphthalein (a chemical that indicates whether an acid or a base is present) into a graduated cylinder. "It's fun doing experiments but the bookwork isn't too fun; chemistry isn't my favorite class," Spurgin said.



# Taco Casa

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**One on One:**  
Spanish teacher Norah Olguin answers sophomore Duane Hatfield's questions on an assignment from Spanish III. Olguin taught both AP Spanish and Spanish III.

Photo by Mirza Muhamedagic



Photo by Mirza Muhamedagic



Photo by Mirza Muhamedagic

**Preparing:**  
Spanish teacher Angela Koob gets ready for class by posting pictures on the chalk board. Koob placed the pictures when preparing to play a matching game to help the students learn a new lesson.

**Listening Intently:**  
Junior Amber Smith pays close attention to her fellow classmates as they perform a skit. Spanish teacher Norah Olguin had the students perform the skits to work on perfecting their fluency.

**Goofing Around:**  
Tossing the microphone in the air, senior Chris Pilkington waits for his turn to be filmed. Pilkington let students pass after lunch so he could continue to film his segment in broadcasting.

**Zoom In:**  
Getting an extreme close up, senior Aaron Lehman films junior Brian Bjerk. The two worked on Bjerk's segment of "Activities and Events".

**Watching and Waiting:**  
Sophomore Ethan Nutter watches over the rest of the business fair while looking for another person to present his project to. The business fair was an event held to show off the students' business projects.

Photo by Dan Haight



Photo by Dan Haight

**Demonstrating:**  
Business student senior Lisa Heath presents her project to other students. Heath was part of Jacki Prehm's class and created an imaginary nail salon to present at the job fair.

Photo by Dan Haight



**Winning:**  
Business teacher Rodney Wiebers reads a Monopoly® Chance Card to his partner, senior Anne Ruebbelke. Ruebbelke celebrated once she heard that the card's message was positive.

Photo by Abby Weaver



Photo by Abby Weaver



**Looking Good:**  
While waiting for technical difficulties juniors Katelyn Ingersol and Brian Bjerk pose for the camera. The two were filming the announcements against a green screen on Jan. 24.

**Concentrating:**  
Sophomore Brittany Thompson focuses on her assignment while using the new computers in Photo Art I. The computers were used in the fine art classes to teach students graphic design.

Photo by Abby Weaver





# Potential Future In Graphic Design Pricey Upgrade

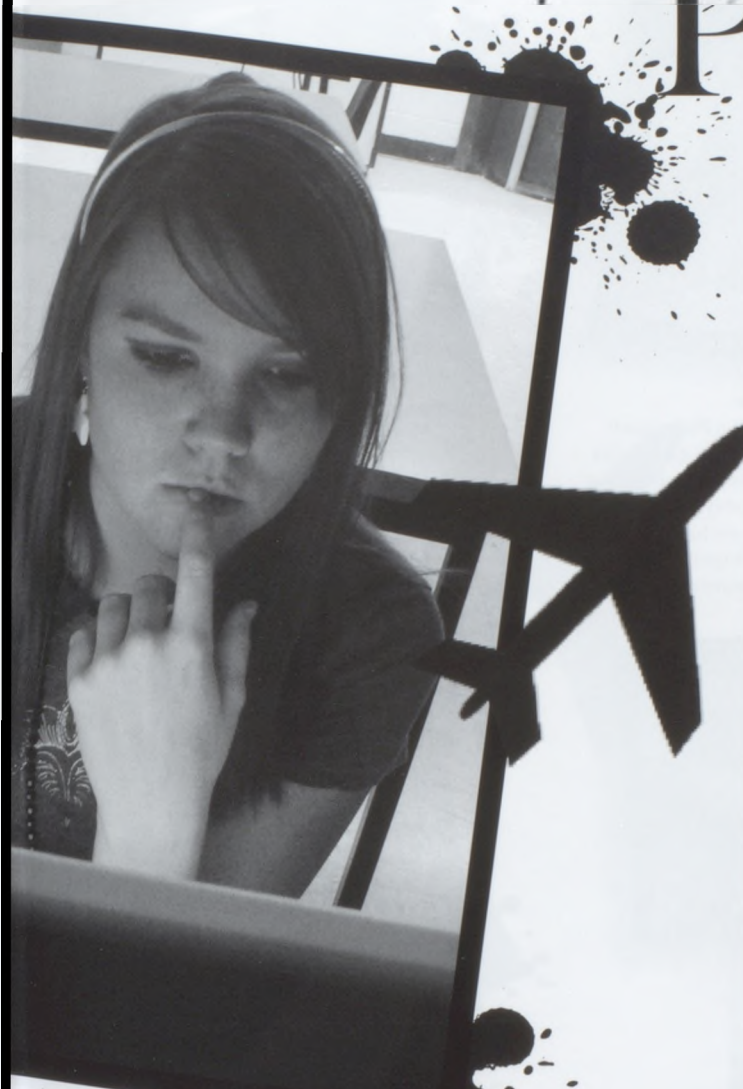
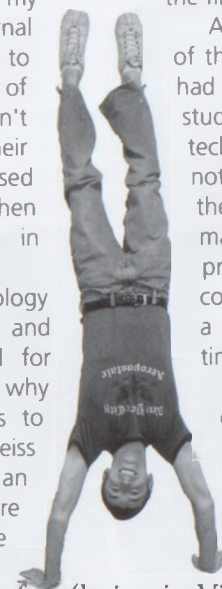


Photo by Erin Funk

In a world of advancing technology, students in high schools across the United States had access to a computer at all times. According to fine arts teacher Dan Weiss, the district had once again spent money on more computers under the assumption that new computers ensured higher learning capability. However, that was not the opinion of Weiss. "My job as an educator, what I sign my contract for, is to develop the internal technologies of my students, not to peddle the external technologies of corporations," Weiss said. "I don't believe that the parents who send their children to our schools are impressed by pools and pools of TV screens when their children are not proficient in reading and other basic skills."

According to Weiss, the word technology should include a hammer, pencil and stapler which have been around for hundreds of years. "I'm wondering why people have allowed corporations to usurp the word 'technology,'" Weiss said. "A pencil in the hand of an interested and astute learner is more technological than any mouse I've seen clicked."



“It's fun (being in Video Production) because we get to create movies using equipment that isn't normally available to high school students.”  
-Erik Mortens '07

Despite the aversion to computers and the misconceptions that come with them, Weiss and his students were excited for the addition of six Mac computers to the fine arts program. The new program was stalled due to a failure to hook up the Macs at the beginning of the semester. The computers were not connected until early December, just short of finishing the first semester.

According to Weiss, with the addition of these computers, the fine arts program had the opportunity to expand, allowing students to better adapt their skills to the technological society. Though Weiss did not believe the program was limited before the implementation of computers, he did marvel at the way the Macs expanded his program. "The quick, visual nature of the computer's system and format makes it a remarkable instructional tool for me at times," Weiss said.

Weiss believed that the computers did not replace the program already in existence, the addition of the computers further built on a solid foundation. *Spread by Abby Weaver and Kiley Dewhurst*

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## Sewing the seams:

Senior Lindsey Castellano sews together a skirt in the class Clothing Seminar. "(Sewing) was a lot of fun but a lot harder than I thought it would be," she said.

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Grace Meiners

## Cooking for class:

Sophomore Alisa Bahic serves up a basil and cheese appetizer for her class in Culinary Arts. The class had a pasta dinner with the groups making different dishes to serve to the class.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

## Diamonds are forever:

During a mock bridal fair, Family and Consumer Science teacher Amy Healy shows off her real engagement ring. The students were each given \$15,000 in order to plan their imaginary wedding. The fair was designed to allow the students to display their plans.

## Cleaning shop:

Junior Andy Hummel sweeps up under the car during Auto Technology. The students were required to clean up periodically in order to keep the shop tidy.

## Fire it up:

Senior Vince Larson demonstrates his knowledge of oxy-fuel welding by fusing together two pieces of metal during the class Welding I. Larson proved capable and got an A- on the assignment.

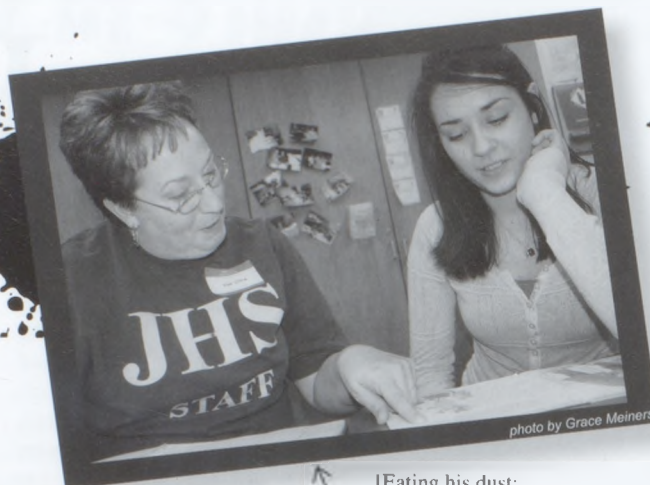


photo by Grace Meiners

## Learnin' German:

Sophomore Azra Beganovic and ELP teacher Sue Cline read from a children's book in German. Beganovic chose to learn the German language as part of her ELP project.

## Eating his dust:

Sophomore John Puffet sands down a piece of his grandfather clock in the class Woodworking II. "The assembly process was hard because you have to make everything fit together perfectly or else you get points off," he said.

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Grace Meiners



photo by Grace Meiners

## Crepes Anyone?:

Senior Tine Schempp makes a small adjustment to her mural during ELP. The idea for her mural came from a deli in New York City. She frequented the deli while she was in the city for a dance program.





# ELP Embraces Artistic Sensibility Murals Abound



photo by Megan Browning

When sophomore Hannah Emmerson approached Sue Cline, coordinator of the Extended Learning Program (ELP), unsure as to whether a mere canvas could adequately convey the vision swimming in her head, Cline decided to offer an uncouth suggestion: paint the wall. "I find the entire process entertaining. I have not an artistic bone in my body, besides, it gives the room character," Cline said.

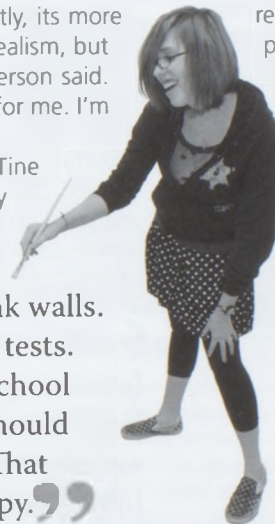
Emmerson immediately began mapping out her mural, first drawing, then shellacking layer upon layer of paint on her floor to ceiling acrylic representation of trees, a field, a small herd of deer and a cupcake of mysterious location. "I'm trying to work towards impressionism, but it's not working so well. Currently, it's more of a mix of impressionism and realism, but more layers will fix that," Emmerson said. "This is more of an experiment for me. I'm working on it."

Emmerson's work left senior Tine Schempp enthralled. Instantly motivated to take her painting to larger scale, Schempp, after

completing her initial project, a monochromatic depiction of ballerinas done on a ceiling tile, chose to follow in Emmerson's wall-painting footsteps and bring a little of NYC to Johnston in the process. "(My painting) is of a deli on the side of this building in New York City, this little window where you could get completely organic crepes and smoothies," Schempp, who spent the summer in New York for a dance program, said. "I spent a great deal of time there with my friends. The window confused a lot of people initially, but once I fixed the 'Crepes to Go' portion, the perplexed stares stopped."

Both Emmerson and Schempp received rave reviews for their respective projects, especially from the woman accredited for the idea. "I am in awe of their efforts," Cline said. "I am a horrendous artist, but seeing them work is amazing." *Spread by Megan Susanne Browning and Mary Grace Meiners*

“I am not a fan of blank walls. They make me think of tests. The more murals this school has, the better. There should be murals everywhere! That would make me so happy.”  
-Hannah Emmerson '09



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# Down to the last second

## Desire to win brings home district championship title

Hours. Minutes. Seconds. The passage of time, drowned out by academics, employment, and activities in high school became non-existent. The world and everyone in it forgot about those precious seconds wasted, everyone but the boys crossing the finish line. For them, a second meant the difference between first and tenth. It meant winning or losing. That second, where they should have pushed just that much harder to make up ground, became the deciding factor.

That second proved to be a winning one as the boys crossed the line, finishing first at the district meet on Oct. 19, 2006, for the first time in history. Confident they had trained well and had a winnable district, the boys arrived at the Iowa Western Community College campus calm and focused. "We made practice more relaxed and enjoyable so the pressure wasn't there," senior Ricky Rodriguez said of the team's preparation.

They arrived ready to lace up the win. "Our three through five runners stepped it up and our six and seven runners followed," senior Jay Quick said. According to coach Dave Beason, the more relaxed the boys were, the more ready to run they were. The boys' performance proved that fact as all members of the team achieved their personal goals.

Seconds before the gun went off, the boys approached the starting line with determination

and experience in mind. At the sound of the flare, all seven teams sped past Johnston runners, and it appeared as if the race could not be won. By setting their pace from the beginning, the boys possessed the energy needed to pull ahead when it really mattered. Senior Nick Scholten said, "The other seven teams started off hard, but our experience allowed us to pass them at the end."

Beason said the boys concentrated on their biggest competition, Valley, as the team to beat and pushed to take the lead, as Valley was only seconds faster the entire season. Junior Derek Furrow identified Valley's number-five runner as his competition and strived to run with him. "Going into the meet, I wanted to hang with the number-five Valley runner, but ended up beating the number-three Valley guy," Furrow said. "As a team, I thought first was very obtainable."

Though many commented on the impact the amount of running put into the preseason had on their success at districts, senior Connor Elmitt believed their desire to compete and win brought the boys to victory. *Spread by Kiley Dewhurst and Abby Weaver*

“Beason pushed us harder because he knew we were better. I feel we lived up to those expectations and became the first Johnston boys team to become district champs!”

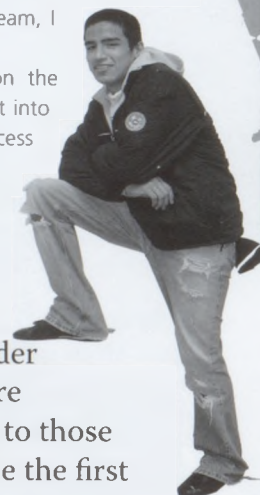
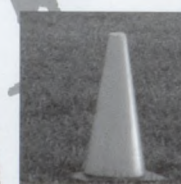
-Ricky Rodriguez '06

Posing for pictures, the boys' and girls' cross country teams smile and congratulate each other. Both teams were awarded the title of district champions. The district meet was held in Council Bluffs.



photo by Grace Meiners

Resting after a race, juniors Jeff Bast, Mitch Blanchard, Cullen Hirst and freshman Alex Richards sit on a curb eating bananas. The boys talked about how they performed while they refueled with water and bananas.





# Sprint

photo by Grace Meiners

Rounding the corner, seniors Connor Elmitt and Nick Scholten compete at the Iowa Western Community College campus for districts. Elmitt went on to finish sixth and Scholten finished seventh for the team.



photo by Grace Meiners



photo by Grace Meiners



photo by Abby Weaver



photo by Abby Weaver

Awaiting the announcement of winners at districts, senior Ricky Rodriguez sits with the spirit stick. The tradition of the spirit stick originated from the years before. The boys thought it brought good luck when they won the district meet.

Sticking together, seniors Connor Elmitt, Chris Ajluni and junior Derek Furrow make their way around the corner. Ajluni said, "Running together in a pack is useful when passing an opponent because after they see four or five (runners) of the same team pass them, they are intimidated."

Junior Cicely Gordon cheers among fellow varsity cheerleaders, senior Emily O'Keefe and junior Kate Dickey, after finishing the Johnston Invite. Gordon joined the cheerleaders and helped to cheer on the varsity boys' race.



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- @ Urbanaale 6th
- Johnston Invite 2nd
- @ Tom Karpen Invitational 3rd
- @ Indianola Invitational 1st
- @ Ames 10th
- @ Roosevelt 13th
- @ Ankeny 6th
- @ Ft. Dodge 11th
- CML Invite at Indianola 2nd
- State 14th

## All-Conference

- Nate Nuzum 2nd
- Jay Quick 3rd
- Ricky Rodriguez 18th
- Lute Finley 19th

## Districts

- Nate Nuzum 2nd
- Jay Quick 7th
- Ricky Rodriguez 10th

## State Qualifiers

- Nate Nuzum 11th
- Jay Quick
- Ricky Rodriguez
- Connor Elmh
- Derik Furrow
- Lute Finley
- Nick Schotten
- Grant Jacobson - alternate

## Academic All-Conference

- Nate Nuzum
- Connor Elmh
- Derik Furrow
- Lute Finley
- Nick Schotten
- Grant Jacobson
- Chris Ajluni
- Dane Seaberg
- Tyler Foster-Stavneat
- John Pietzman
- Willy Lowe

## Academic All-State

- Nate Nuzum
- Connor Elmh



photo by Grace Meiners



photo by Grace Meiners

Senior Nate Nuzum accepts the second place award at districts next to Derik Simenson of Souix City North who placed third in the meet. Seniors Jay Quick and Ricky Rodriguez also placed in the top ten at the district meet.

Making his way up a hill, senior Jay Quick runs at the Tom Karpen Invitational. Quick set goals for himself at the start of the season. These included going to state and placing in the top 10 as a team and individually. The boys' placed 11th overall at state.



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## Pressure leads to brand new adventure

### New senior joins varsity while underclassmen take control

Participating in cross country for the first time, senior Erica Weirich did not expect much when she joined. "I thought it would be good before track season in the spring and my friends said that I should do it," Weirich said.

After seeing a lot of talented freshmen on the girls' cross country team, the seniors began to believe there might not be a spot for them on the varsity team. When Weirich joined she did not expect to be the only senior who ran on varsity. "I thought the other (seniors) who were on varsity (last year) would return to varsity," Weirich said. The rest of the varsity runners were underclassmen.

"It was fun being on varsity but the leadership was different and I wasn't used to it," Weirich said. Having only one senior on varsity meant that the rest of the seniors would be on junior varsity. Senior Kristen Strawhacker was on varsity previous years and even ran at the state meet. Strawhacker was disappointed that she did not run varsity but she said junior varsity was different. "(Having the seniors on junior varsity) made (junior varsity) more competitive and it made people feel important," Strawhacker said.

Strawhacker and her friends had tried to get Weirich to join cross country. "(Weirich) is a good

runner and she's really good at track," Strawhacker said. After pressure from Strawhacker and other teammates, Weirich eventually gave in.

Senior Anna Lammers explained that being on varsity is all about runners who had the fastest time not those who had been on cross country the longest. "Winning is all about time and not on seniority," Lammers said. That showed as the cross country team won four of the invitationals and placed fourth at state.

Weirich had a lot of fun at state and was glad she joined cross country. "It would have been nice being in cross country all through high school," Weirich said. "The camp we went on was a lot of fun."

Weirich's friends who helped her get into cross country were glad that she finally gave it a shot. "I wished that she would have joined earlier but (I'm) glad that she did join our senior year," Strawhacker said. "We've always tried to convince her to join and finally she did." *spread by Ciera Lundgren*



“The best pasta dinners were the ones with lots of different choices and good desserts. Scotcheroos were the best.”

-Lauren Lund '09

All smiles at Iowa Western Community College, the varsity team lined up for pictures as they announced Regional Champions. "We've worked really hard this year and it paid off," sophomore Emily Schwartz said.



photo by Grace Meiners

Head coach Patrick Hennes and junior Laura Hilby huddle up with the varsity team after the Ankeny Invitational on Sept. 28. The girls placed second at the meet following Dowling.



# Stride

photo by Grace Meiners

Sophomore Nickie Meyer heads to the end of the race at the Johnston Invitational during the junior varsity race. "I got ninth and did very well," Meyer said. "It was a small meet and it was neck and neck."



photo by Abby Weaver

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>© Urbancale</li> <li>Johnston Invitational</li> <li>© Luther</li> <li>© Ames</li> <li>© Roosevelt</li> <li>© Indianola</li> <li>© St. Paul, MN</li> <li>© Anteny</li> <li>© Fort Dodge</li> <li>CHL</li> <li>Districts</li> <li>© Fort Dodge (state)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First</li> <li>First</li> <li>Fifth</li> <li>Second</li> <li>Twelfth</li> </ul>	
	Second	Tenth
	Third	Third
	Fourth	

Academic All-Conference	State Qualifiers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anne Ruetzel</li> <li>Heather Wendel</li> <li>Amy Cruger</li> <li>Nickie Meyer</li> <li>Taylor Gieve</li> <li>Felicia Hoover</li> <li>Kelsey Hyde</li> <li>Grace Henders</li> <li>Florence Hill</li> <li>Sarah Timmons</li> <li>Jenalee Williams</li> <li>Kari Ross</li> <li>Emily Quack</li> <li>Erin Skotman</li> <li>Erin Strandacker</li> <li>Jordan Sandquist</li> <li>Emily Schwartz</li> <li>Laura Hilby</li> <li>Holly Epp</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ana Behner</li> <li>Olivia Berni</li> <li>Holly Epp</li> <li>Laura Hilby</li> <li>Emily Schwartz</li> <li>Jordan Sandquist</li> <li>Erica Weirich</li> <li>Amelia Philp - alternate</li> <li>Erin Strandacker - alternate</li> </ul>

All-Conference
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olivia Berni 7th</li> <li>Holly Epp 5th</li> <li>Emily Schwartz 10th</li> </ul>

Regionals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olivia Berni 7th</li> <li>Holly Epp 9th</li> <li>Laura Hilby 9th</li> <li>Emily Schwartz 5th</li> </ul>

Coach Pat Hennes - 4A Girls Coach of the Year



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photo by Abby Weaver

Freshman Emily Kane keeps up with the pack at the Johnston Invitational. The junior varsity team placed first at its own invitational in front of Waukee.



photo by Abby Weaver

Making a tight corner, junior Megan Junge competes at the Johnston Invitational. "I didn't do well, but it was a good day for running," Junge said.



photo by Grace Meiners

Senior Erica Weirich explains to coach Pat Hennes her encounter with another runner's spike and her shin. The incident occurred during the Roy Griak Invitational held at the University of Minnesota. Even though Weirich returned home with an injury, the team placed 10th.



photo by Grace Meiners

Keeping together, sophomores Emily Schwartz, Molli Kipp, freshman Jordan Sandquist and junior Laura Hilby compete at districts for regional champions. The girls won districts and the title Regional Champions.



photo by Abby Weaver

Sprinting to the end, senior Kelsey Hyde competes at Johnston Invitational on Sept. 7. The team finished first at their own invitational.



# Leaving the huddles behind

## Dragons lose periodic pauses to gain opportunity

The crowd roared as sophomore Justin Amick was tackled following a first-down run, exhilarated at the Dragons top-notch performance. However, instead of being forced to endure a pause in the excitement, players skipped the huddling. Play resumed immediately, confusing the opponent's defense immensely. The Dragons brought a new, faster, more aggressive offense to their new field: the no-huddle offense. "The no-huddle offense goes full throttle for four quarters, no breaks," Coach Brian Woodley said. "The main point is to break the other team down. There's no time for the defense to adjust or substitute players."

According to coach Brian Lutter, the no-huddle offense was fairly self-explanatory: instead of huddling up between plays while time dwindled away, coaches threw a conveniently timed hand signal in the quarterback's general direction. The action started as quickly as possible, throwing the defense off and providing as many opportunities to score as possible. Although the system required a higher level of conditioning, players responded well to the switch. "The no-huddle enables you to run more plays in a game, which means more

yards, more touchdowns, more success," junior Daniel Chapman said. "Everyone knew that the conditioning was an important part of getting in shape for that."

A side effect of disposing of the huddle lay in the increased role the defense was forced to play. Defensive coaches were initially reluctant to make the switch, aware of the strain it would place on their players. The defensive line was not only on the field longer but also competed against slower traditional systems, drastically different than the one they practiced against on a daily basis.

In the end, the point of abolishing the huddle was opportunity: creating the situations needed to score and win. With that in mind, Woodley felt the Dragons experienced multiple positives following the switch, including setting a new record for most yardage in a single game (605 yards against Ankeny). However, for senior quarterback Danny Cahill, the highlight of the season was clearly beating Ankeny, 52-51. *Spread by Megan Browning and Antonio Rodriguez*

“(Practices during the summer were challenging) for me personally because I have a disability, cerebral palsy. I can’t run as fast as the other people and I don’t have that good of balance. I get knocked over easily.”

-Brock Zenor '09



Greg Larpenter, sophomore running back, works to escape his Ankeny opponents in a junior varsity game. "We practiced hard, worked hard against Ankeny, but we got killed by (them)," he said.

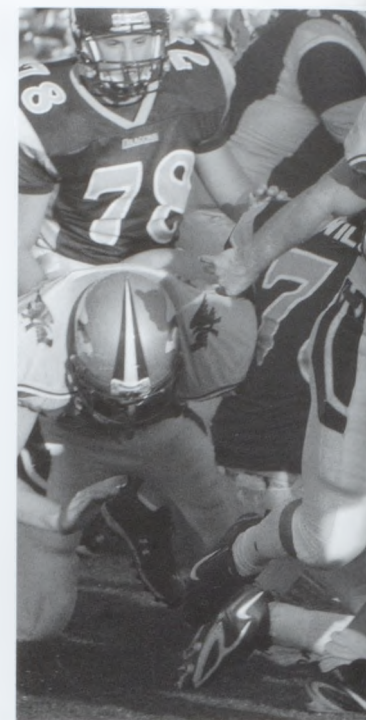


photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Attempting to take down his opponent, junior defensive back Kyle Hanson eludes Ankeny offensive blockers. "I saw him running to the weak side so I just tried to tackle him," said Hanson.



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kick

photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Sophomore defensive back Aaron Schultz listens to instructions from referee Brian Gibson before the kickoff for the Hoover game. Schultz drowned out distractions when he played. "You don't hear the crowd as much during the game," Schultz said.

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Senior linebacker David Temple energizes his teammates during the homecoming game. The Dragons beat Urbandale 24-20. He said, "We knew we could beat them, but they played their best game of the year against us."

With the Urbandale defense blocked, senior quarterback Danny Cahill attempts an option. According to Cahill, when running his thoughts were "Don't fumble, keep the ball safe, make smart decisions, give it all I got, run them over or juke 'em."

During warm-up exercises before the Hoover game, junior Josh South, senior Phil Evans and junior Taylor Young run through plays. Evans said, "(Warm ups are) very effective because you can anticipate what your opponents are going to do."



@ Sioux City West	41-12
Hoover	50-7
@ Council Bluffs Thomas Jefferson	44-44
@ Fort Dodge	24-7
Urbandale (Homecoming)	24-20
@ Indianola	24-28
Antenu	52-51
@ South East Polk	44-49
Donling	41-45

6 wins 3 losses  
 Conference 2 wins -3 losses  
 JV Team 8 wins -3 losses  
 Sophomore 4 wins -5 losses

All Conference 2006  
 1st team offense - Danny Cahill (Quarterback),  
 Jeremy Johnson (Center)

2nd Team Offense: Justin Amick (Running Back), Troy DuBay  
 (Running Back)

Defense: Justin Amick (Receiver), Troy DuBay (Running Back), Hunter  
 Warner (Center)

Honorable Mention: Joe Pavetta, Tyler Shannon, Scott Cronin,  
 Kevin Christopher, Aaron Schulte



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Attempting a quarterback keeper, sophomore quarterback Dustin Fish makes it down the line until being taken out by the Urbandale defense. Fish said, "I ran a lot, threw well but could have done better. There is always room for improvement."



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Discussing the offensive line, senior running back Tyler Shannon tells junior Troy DuBay what holes to go through and how the opponent's defense is lined up. Shannon was able to give applicable advice because he and DuBay played the same position.

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# Prestigious tournaments improve the game

## Two golfers play out of season to improve team's year

Receiving an opportunity to play in Scotland, the birthplace of golf, was something every golfer would have loved to have. Senior Chris Williamson was able to take this chance during the summer of 2006. "(It's) cool to get to see a new place and get to play while you're over there," Williamson said. Placing high enough in the Future Collegians World Tour in St. Louis and Purdue, took Williamson and seven other high school students from around the United States to Scotland. "(I wanted) to represent the USA (and) see where other kids my age are at all over the world," Williamson said.

Williamson wasn't the only member of the team to get a taste of big competition. Junior Jared Walahoski played in the Westfield Junior PGA championship held in Westfield, Ohio. Before participating in the championship tournament, Walahoski needed to qualify through the Westfield Qualifier in Iowa City. Walahoski went on to win the tournament, qualifying him for the championship. "(The tournament) is one of the top, if not the top tournaments for juniors in the country. It's an honor to play in it," Walahoski said.

Williamson believed he improved his season because he saw other styles of golf played which helped him to learn different ways to hit the ball.

While Walahoski enjoyed his experience, he said, "It was still golf and (the tournament) was better than I expected."

According to coach Steve Smith, Walahoski and Williamson's participation in these tournaments helped the whole team to improve their game. "When you have great leadership, others are (going to) follow. Anytime you get to make special trips like that, you're going to gain a lot of experience," Smith said.

Senior Collin Coughlon agreed that Williamson and Walahoski helped the team. He believed that their confidence rubbed off on the rest of the team and gave everyone else confidence.

With these experienced leaders, the team was able to have a successful season overall placing third in both the district and state meet. *Spread by Sammy McConeghey and Allison McGrew*

"Going to different golf courses to play (was my favorite part of the season) because it makes you better when you play on different courses. There's different green speeds and course lengths."

- Bryce Johnson '09

Placing the ball on the green, senior Ryan Dickey gets ready for his round. The JV team had a nine-hole average of 160.4 and a 18-hole average of 324.



photo by Sammy McConeghey

Lining up his ball at eye level, junior Jared Walahoski readies himself to putt during the Briarwood Invitational. The Dragons went on to place second at the tournament.





Teeing off, senior Chris Williamson watches his ball in the distance before it lands. Williamson believed the windy playing conditions in Scotland helped improve his game during windy competitions at home.



photo by Caitlin Larkin



photo by Allison McGrew

Sophomore Mike Slavin dries off his club after playing in the rain at the Dowling Invitational. It was Slavin's first year being a part of the varsity golf team; causing him to feel more pressure. "It feels like crap if you have a bad round. You feel like you let your team down," Slavin said.



photo by Allison McGrew

Junior Ben Scieszinski knocks the ball towards the hole while warming up at the Dowling Invitational. The JV team ended the season with an overall record of 23-7.



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

Analyzing the placement of his ball, senior Jordan Olson prepares to putt. "I was a little disappointed (with our placing at state) we worked pretty hard and thought we could win it," Olson said. The Dragons ended up placing third at the state meet.



# Clifton Gunderson congratulates the Johnston Dragons Class of 2007 on their accomplishments.

@ Venter	first
@ Mason City	first
@ Anteny	Loss
@ Anteny	third
@ Lincoln	first
@ Valley	second
@ Wakarusa	tie second
@ Ames	sixth
@ Dowling	Loss
@ Terrace	second
@ Boone	first
@ Districts	third
@ State	third

## State Qualifiers

Jared Wialakosti  
Chris Williamson  
Collin Caughlon  
Brent Goodenow  
Jordan Olson  
Mike Slavin

## All-state first team

Jared Wialakosti

## All-Conference first team

Jared Wialakosti  
Jordan Olson  
Chris Williamson

## Academic All Conference

Chris Williamson  
Jordan Olson  
Brent Goodenow  
Jared Wialakosti

## All-Conference second team

Collin Caughlon  
Mike Slavin

## All-Conference honorable mention

Brent Goodenow



photo by Sammy McConeghey

During a JV practice at the Briarwood Golf Course, junior Brady Johnson leans down to make his mark. "This year, practice was a lot more serious than previous years (because) we had a lot more talented players fighting for the top six spots," Johnson said.



photo by Caitlin Larkin

Focusing on his next move, junior Brent Goodenow taps the ball toward the hole during the dual meet against Dowling. According to Goodenow, the most memorable part of the season was playing at the state tournament in Davenport at Crow Valley golf course.







photo by Emily Roeser

Preparing for a night of tp'ing, freshman Allie Lindsey puts black mascara under freshman Averil Giudisessi's eyes. "The first house we went to was the best part," Giudisessi said. "The first roll I threw got stuck up in the tree, I wasn't very good at it but it was still fun."



photo by Abby Weaver

Lip syncing to "Tearin' Up My Heart" by N' Sync, senior Danny Cahill shows off his moves to senior Ashley Bedord. "No, I wasn't disappointed that I didn't win," Cahill said. "Cody deserved it, he got a good song."

Sporting a suit for dress-up day, senior Matt Burch helps junior Jerrod Luetje hammer a practice wall for their masonry unit in Construction Tech. Working with messy concrete mix Burch said, "I wasn't worried about (the suit). It was just really, really hot."



photo by Emily Roeser

Doing everything he can to win the title of Ms. JHS Football, senior Cody VerHuel gets his groove on with photographer Deena Byrd. "I didn't know what to do to win," VerHuel said. "I just saw her sitting there so I just did it." He won and gained the title.

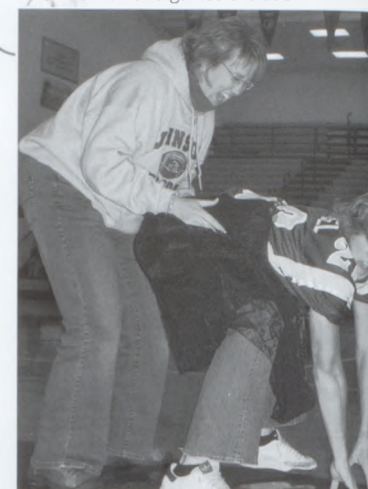


photo by Abby Weaver

# homecoming...



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

25 Flying through the air, junior Justin Butler anticipates his collision with pudding. "I started like ten feet behind where everyone else started. I ran and my shoe fell off," Butler said. Despite his efforts, he and his team lost the challenge.



photo by Emily Roeser

28 Getting ready for the parade, junior Alyssa Buckley ties a sign to the back of the dance team float. "Decorating the float was the best," Buckley said. "It was team bonding and working together, it was just a lot of fun."



photo by Abby Weaver

29 Getting up close and personal, seniors Matt Bengston and Austin Strawhacker play a game during the homecoming assembly. The game consisted of passing a mint with only toothpicks. "It was pretty hard actually," Bengston said. "If you tried to go fast it was hard but if you went slower it was easier."



photo by Sammy McConeghey

30 Looking in each others eyes, juniors Micheal Ellis and Stephanie Babcock slow dance at homecoming. "Yeah it (dance) was a blast," Ellis said. "It was one of the better dances; it wasn't dead."

photo by Abby Weaver



Senior Courtney Badgley involuntarily assists English teacher Mark Schillerstrom in a trick to make a balloon disappear. "He popped (the balloon) and it scared me," Badgley said. "I didn't know what he was doing, and it stung a little."



# Overtime brings Competition to close

[Seniors triumph after close call with juniors]

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



From the sidelines, senior Taylor Gowey, who was crowned Homecoming Queen with King senior Jay Quick the day before, watches the powder puff game between the juniors and seniors. "We gave the ball to the juniors, and we stopped them from scoring," Gowey said. "That was their only chance of scoring."

As the last few seconds of the game wore down, the horn blared as it announced the beginning of overtime during the powder puff game Sept. 28, a staple of homecoming week. The junior and senior teams played the game with a fiercely competitive attitude, resulting in a tied game.

"The juniors got ahead early (in the junior-senior game) with two touchdowns in the first half while the seniors were still scoreless. In the second half the seniors scored two touchdowns so we went into overtime," junior Aleece Gustafson said.

Doing all they could to beat the upperclassmen, the juniors raced down the field, dodging their senior opponents, getting the ball to their end zone. "It was fun that we were winning, that we almost beat the seniors. That had never happened before," junior Addie Iler said.

The junior team then attempted to make the two-point conversion needed to win by running the ball into the end zone.

However, their efforts fell short. Seizing the ball and successfully edging their way to the opposite end of the field and into their end zone, the seniors scored their final touchdown, winning the game.

The game had come to an end with a final score of 18-12. For the juniors, overtime had cost them the game. "We couldn't make a two-point conversion to save our lives, so that ended up hurting us. We also couldn't score a touchdown in overtime, so that's what led to them winning," junior Kari Dockum said. "It came down to us scoring a touchdown in overtime, and we just couldn't do it."

The game was a competition between the three grade levels, splitting into respective teams of sophomore, junior and senior girls. "We've had the same team every year. Whoever can run was the running back, whoever had a good arm was the quarterback. It was the same girls all the way through," senior Amanda Lower said.

Though the senior team consisted of returning girls, no one expected the game to be as close as it was. "I was mad because the seniors usually win and we actually had to work (to win)," Lower said. *spread by Emily Roeser and Sam Dearden*

“It was a little disappointing that we couldn't choose our team names, nicknames or design our shirts for Rock Around the Clock. I still thought that the games and the whole night was a lot of fun.”

-Alyssa Burcham '08





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## Almost Done

Emphasizing an important piece of the show, junior Kathryn Gulleen squats down on one leg. The Dowling game ended the band's winning season, including their success at Valley Fest, where they placed third in the day and ninth in the night show.

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



## Windy Day

Carefully reading her music, senior Angela Schaefer acquires the assistance of senior Makea Sanders to keep the sheets from blowing away. The pit joined the rest of the band on the field when they added music to their drill.

photo by Felicia Hoover



## «Performing at J-Town

During a pause in the trumpets' music, senior Alexis Buchanan takes a deep breath as she dramatically steps forward during Johnston's Marching Invitational. The band opened up their season at home.



photo by Felicia Hoover



# Marching Band's Marchless Homecoming

Scheduling  
Conflict Cannot  
Crush Band Spirit

While a good chunk of the female population of the High School was primping for the Homecoming dance, potentially applying enough hairspray to wreak havoc with the ozone layer, senior color guard captain Megan Bendixen was watching the many bands perform at the Urbandale Marching Invitational. Normally Bendixen would have been on the field as well, twirling her flag with the best of them, but this was purely on a spectator basis.

Multiple Urbandale invitational competitions had ended with the Marching Dragons as victors. However, the band did not have the chance to continue the tradition. A scheduling conflict with the homecoming dance resulted in the cancellation of the Dragons duel performance day: the Urbandale Invitational and another competition in Iowa City. "I talked to (athletic director Gary) Ross and (principal Bruce) Hukee and if we had changed the dates, Homecoming would have been very early in September or very late in October," band director Patrick Kearney said. "We didn't feel we could ask students to give up their Homecoming dance."

Band members' reaction to the news fell more into the saddened category than anger. Aware of the fact that their director had their best intentions at heart, the band came to terms with their shortened competition schedule. "I know a lot of people were initially upset, but I think after a while they accepted it and moved on," junior Tim Clay, a drum

major, said. "But there were some hardcore band nerds that went to Urbandale to watch the competition."

Although they were not out on the field, the marching band camaraderie was not to be defeated. Several band members opted to watch other bands perform rather than attend the Homecoming dance. Junior Becky Cooper and pals made their decision to forgo the dance early on, finding dances unenjoyable. "Dances are really lame! You don't do much and stand around a lot," Cooper said. Senior Saliya Wijertne's motivation behind attending the invite over Homecoming was a bit simpler. "I couldn't find a date to the dance and I kinda wanted to watch the other bands," Wijertne said.

Tradition and nostalgia influenced Bendixen's decision more than anything else. "I was really sad watching the other bands perform. The seniors had won Urbandale every year and we didn't get the chance to finish out the tradition we started," Bendixen said. "It would have been great to win all the way through." *spread by Megan Browning and Felicia Hoover*



“The seniors were good at leadership. They taught us how to march and they showed us how to do things we wouldn't normally know how to do. It helped make the season more successful.”

-Jake Heil '09



## Making Music Together

Seniors Erica Eaves and Ryari Dickey play a duet in the song, "We Go On." "It's really fun to be up there and be the only ones playing," Eaves said. "I'll remember that part of marching band forever." >>



photo by Felicia Hoover



photo by Felicia Hoover



photo by Felicia Hoover

## « On to State

Out in the heat, senior Amanda Hatfield plays the flute at her final State Marching Show. Even though the band recieved the highest ranking Hatfield said, "We didn't do our best on the day show, we just kept messing up. We did better at the night show."

## « Check the Time

While junior Daniel Chapman tries to figure out where he needs to go next in the drill, senior drum major Hannah Wagner checks the time on her phone. The band had gone outside to learn drill during band camp even though it was raining.

# marvelous marching steps from the band



photo by Felicia Hoover

## ≈ State Contest

As the show's end nears, senior Laura Messerly tilts her head up to the top of the stands. "The band directors like to throw movements in, so sometimes they wouldn't make complete sense," T.K. Kanauss said.

## Waukee Invite≈

Senior Frank Baxter focuses on playing his instrument while the rest of the band continues to march behind him. "They (the pit) think they are invisible, but they really help us," sophomore Leah Peterson said.



photo by Felicia Hoover



## ≈ Pre-Game

Right after completing the Varsity's dance senior color guard member Rachel Bassell performs the fight song for pre-game. "Colorguard is really fun and I love getting to know all the upperclassmen. I like going out on the field with all my friends," sophomore Breanna Ellis said.



photo by Felicia Hoover

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## Hanson shoots hoops >>

During free time at the leadership retreat, junior Kyle Hanson slam dunks the basketball into the hoop.

"In between basketball games we were showing off and seeing who could slam dunk the best and obviously, I won the competition," Hanson said.

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



## Showing off <<

Junior Zach Larimer and sophomore Caroline Byrd walk off stage, ending their skit to the song "Ring of Fire" by Johnny Cash. On the last night of the retreat, small groups performed a skit with a country theme.

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



## << Sharing the love

Junior Grant Jacobson looks on as seniors Eric Tubbs and Scott Cronin enjoy a bonding moment at their last SAIL leadership retreat together. "Eric and I have been friends for a really long time, (we) played basketball together when we were little," Cronin said.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

# Students voice massive frustration

Juniors come together to talk about improving their senior year

As the juniors sat at the top of inspiration point at the YMCA camp in Boone, Iowa, they expressed their frustration with the constant loss of privileges that had been occurring since the seventh grade. Some frustrations were one less year in the high school, discontinued self-scheduling, and no chance of a trip to Adventureland in the seventh grade.

SAIL (Students Active In Leadership) advisor Dan Scannell, had one goal in mind. "The junior challenge was to know these things aren't ignored but help (the juniors) to come together and unify and move forward," Scannell said.

In order for the juniors to move forward, they had to first express how they felt about the things that were taken away. They were split up into groups by birthdays and discussed the things that were taken away from them. Each group decided what they felt was the most important thing and then had to yell out into the open what they had decided on.

"My group yelled, 'stop the segregation, freshmen integration,'" junior Renee Pike said. Pike's group picked this because the freshmen felt left out of everything going on in the high school.



"(The junior challenge) let everyone say how they felt. (It) gave Scannell and Rollison a good idea of how we feel (so they can) try to give something back," Pike said.

The second half of the challenge was to help the juniors figure out how they could make their senior year better and what the teachers could do to help.

"(The teachers can) make sure that students are a big part of the decisions that are made, not just a small part but a bigger part," junior Hannah Clarkson said.

Other students felt that the junior class needed to take the initiative to improve their senior year. "(The juniors) need to come up with ideas (for our senior year) because we can't expect the teachers to just do it," junior Rachel Spurgin said.

Scannell felt that the challenge was beneficial to the junior class. "They realized there's some great potential for next year if they are willing to come together and be positive (to) make a big impact on the building," Scannell said. *Spread by Sammy McConeghey*

“Leadership camp (is) a place where you can meet new people, put yourself out there, let others see you in a new light, and learn more about yourself and others.”

-Shelby Brose 09



## Good times at campfire ≈

Seniors John Miller and Brian Smith improvise on drums and guitar to entertain their audience. Miller and Smith demonstrated their talents on two occasions during the weekend.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

photo by Antonio Rodriguez

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



## « Setting the mood

SAIL advisor Alicia Rollison claps her hands after the warm fuzzie skit. "We were trying to) set the tone for the weekend which is to keep an open mind (and) be accepting of others," Rollison said of the purpose to pass out warm fuzzies.

## « Putting down thoughts

Lying down, senior Sarah Froelich writes down main points from the group's discussion. Students were divided up into small groups and throughout the weekend they discussed different ways to improve the school environment.

what do

# these words

mean to you?



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

## ≈ Imagine

Senior Abby Davis helps the audience to imagine her role as a fairy during the warm fuzzie skit. "(Imagine is) dreaming and believing what you can be," junior Natalie Cunningham said.

## Invest ≈

Juniors Tim Clay and Holly Von Fumetti take time to invest in their friendship during warm fuzzies. "To invest in something means to give it your all (and) put your whole heart into it," Von Fumetti said.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez



## ≈ Inspire

Clad in a warm fuzzie, SAIL coordinator Dan Scannell uses some inspiring words to start the day at the leadership retreat. "Inspire means to give someone the will or power to do something great," senior Chris Ajluni said.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

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# Off the board and into the water

Four divers compete in a relay together for the first time

Although senior Brie Bumpus had been a part of the Urbandale-Johnston-Waukee swim team since moving to the district her sophomore year, she hadn't actually swum in a race until one of the last meets of the season. Normally the only time Bumpus spent in the water during a competition consisted of her exiting the pool after executing a dive; however, during the last home meet of the season against Dowling, she and three other divers experienced what their hydrophilic teammates had long since gotten used to.

Head coach Shari Walling put Bumpus, along with Waukee senior Sarah Cutter, Urbandale sophomore Katie Lee, and Johnston freshman Taylor Erwine in the 200-yard freestyle relay. "(When they found out) they were slightly stressed, but overall they had a pretty positive attitude about it," Walling said. Walling had been joking with the divers about putting them in a relay, and she felt that the Dowling meet was the best opportunity. "I knew that we could win the meet. We were powerful enough to experiment with the relays," she said.

Erwine felt concerned because during practice the divers had more contact with the board than the water. "We don't do swimming at all; we just practice our dives and learn new things," she said.

Erwine and Lee had participated as swimmers in races before but were tentative to jump back into the competitive waters, "I was nervous because it had been a long time since I raced," Erwine said.

Their swimming teammates gave them some extremely useful advice during the practice before the meet. "They showed us how to breathe and how to do flip turns," Cutter said. With their new knowledge, the divers were ready to race.

Before the relay the four divers became very anxious but couldn't help having some fun with the situation. "We were just laughing about it. We didn't think we'd be very fast," Bumpus said.

During the race, along with exhaustion, Cutter felt a new appreciation for her swimming teammates. "I have a whole new respect for swimmers. Being in the water every day with them you think they're just swimming along, but once you try it you realize how hard it actually is!" she said.

The divers finished fourth out of seven relay teams in their heat, and although Bumpus was happy to have participated, she felt content as she watched her first race become her last. "It was a one time experience and I'm glad I left it at that," she said.

*Spread by Grace Meiners and Matthew Courtney*

"(My favorite part was) spending time with the team like the scavenger hunt, t-ping, practice, and car rides to the meets.

-Christina Alarich '09

Urbandale junior Tara Lee, Waukee junior Krista Tippin and Johnston freshman Taylor Erwine were on the team. Johnston junior Hannah Smith finished 100 individual medley, makes it to the race starting. It also makes it to the race when the screaming is heard." Smith said.

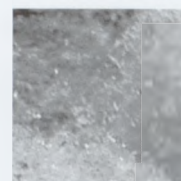


photo by Grace Meiners

Superior coach Dan Briggs and another swimmer set up the Colorado timing system. The timing system helped judges and timers get a more accurate time of the race. When the swimmers were ready to finish the race they had to reach out their hand and push as hard as they could on the wall to stop the clock.





# relay

photo by Matthew Courtney

Receiving an award for winning the pirate race, an event the non-seniors put on for the seniors at Senior Night, senior Sarah Mueller proudly accepts her trophy. "(The seniors) had to jump off the block with an eye patch, pirate hats, and swords, (and inner tubes) we had to keep them on until we reached the end," Mueller said.



photo by Matthew Courtney

Lincoln	
② East	103-69
③ Ames Invitational	132-38
Newton	352-1st
② Marshalltown Invitational	115-71
③ Anteny	296-2nd
③ Kennedy Cedar Rapids Invitational	66-104
Indianola	360-2nd
Fort Dodge	127-56
Johnston Invitational	125-60
Dowling	306-1st
③ South East Polk	108-83
③ Dowling CML Conference Meet	55-89
Regionals	102-2nd
	360-2nd

All State Swimmers  
Hannah Smith-100 Backstroke 100-Free Relay team All-State  
Hercath Lutsetich-2nd team All-State Free Relay

Conference Champions  
Brienne Bumous-1mtr driving  
Alex Gustafson 200 Freestyle, 500 Freestyle  
Hercath Lutsetich 50 Freestyle, 100 Freestyle, 200 Free Relay, 400 Free Relay  
Tara Lee 200 Free Relay, 400 Free Relay  
Krista Tippin 200 Free Relay, 400 Free Relay  
Hannah Smith 200 Free Relay, 400 Free Relay



photo by Grace Meiners

Girls' swimming coach Shari Walling and official Lorry Johnson look over the start system at the district meet held at Johnston. "(My proudest moment was) the 100-yard backstroke at state having Hannah Smith and Krista Tippin place second and third. It's unusual to have two elite (swimmers) on the podium," Walling said.

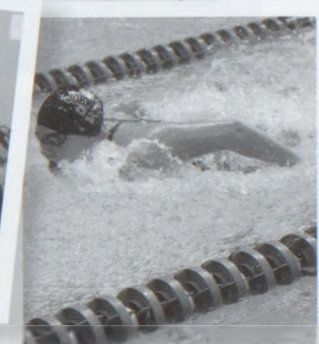


photo by Grace Meiners

Leaping out of the water in the 100-yard butterfly race, Waukee junior Krista Tippin tries to finish her event strong. Tippin placed 12th in the 100-yard butterfly at the state meet in Marshalltown with a time of 1:02.85 and placed 8th in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:01.81.



photo by Matthew Courtney

Hurrying to finish the race, senior Annette Beswick swims the breaststroke 200-yard individual medley race. "(I improved by) dropping time on the 500-yard freestyle, 100-yard freestyle, and the 100-yard backstroke, worked out more in the off season, became stronger and mentally tough," Beswick said



photo by Grace Meiners

Urbandale sophomore Lindsay Taylor races to the end of the pool in the 100-yard butterfly event. The girls swimming team placed first in the invite which was held on Oct. 7 at the Summit Pool.



photo by Matthew Courtney

Urbandale freshman Olivia Dummer swims the freestyle in the 100-yard freestyle race. Dummer's personal best record was 1:03.56 for the race at the Dowling home meet. "I improved a lot this year because I set my mind on it," Dummer said.

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## Teachers chow down »

Serving themselves food at the homecoming game, teachers Isaiah McGee and Chris Siewert tailgate before kickoff. The staff tailgate was a way for faculty to spend time with their families and attend the games.



photo by Erin Funk

## A grill for hungry fans »

At a tailgate, junior Kory McCracken and senior Brent Barz work to lift a heavy grill. They took the grill from McCracken's truck and fired it up while the other tailgaters waited for the grilling to start. After the fans were fed, they watched Johnston beat Ankeny by one point.



photo by Erin Funk

## «Cooking for the Staff

Grilling some hotdogs and hamburgers, history teacher Alicia Rollison talks with other faculty at the staff tailgate prior to the homecoming game. "This was my first year at the grill," Rollison said. "I helped last year, but this year I was in charge."



photo by Erin Funk

# Football, a Grill and DJ Chill

How a DJ changed the spirit of tailgating

The high school students and faithful alumni were dressed in purple and gold as they energized themselves for the homecoming game against Urbandale. The massive crowd of fans grilling and socializing parted while a car with a license plate that read "DJCHILL" drove through. The driver stepped out, it was junior Chris Hill. Hill was a DJ and had come to show off his talent at the homecoming game.

He ran extension cords from the concession stand for power and started setting up his equipment. Hill took speakers out of his trunk, and put the rest of his equipment in the back; he turned up the volume and got the ground thumping, and everyone excited.

"Homecoming was my first time tailgating, I thought it would be fun to do something different," Hill said. He normally played at dances, weddings, and anything else that he was asked to. Hill

got the suggestion from some of his peers to play at the homecoming game, and he thought it was a great idea. Hill decided to use his iPod® so everyone could request songs that they liked due to the variety of musical preferences. "I liked the music he played because I like rap, and I like to hear new stuff," junior Laura Hilby said.

Ordinarily, tailgating consisted of more than one social group. According to senior Jay Quick, DJ Chill helped to get rid of the separation. "It was pretty sweet that he came because normally there are two cars playing music, and then there are two groups of people," Quick said. "When Chris was there, we were all together."

Many students thought of tailgating before games as a tradition, and Hill added a new twist to it. His music and skill brought even more spirit to the already enthusiastic event. "I would do it again next year," Hill said. "I always enjoy playing music and DJing. No matter where, I have fun with it." *spread by Erin Funk and Caitlin Larkin*

“If I had one word to describe tailgating it would be crazy because people are all over the place, and the music is really loud, so you can't hear anything!”

-Mindy Dickerson 09





## Keeping warm ☺

Cramming into the trunk, juniors Leah Kron, Lauren Lund, Mike Schultz, and Sam Han socialize at a tailgate. "It was freezing outside so we were trying to get as many people as we could into the back of Eric Reese's car," Kron said.



photo by Felicia Hoover



photo by Felicia Hoover



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

## « Pouring it on

Dousing some extra seasoning on their burgers, seniors Eric Tubbs and Adam Richards enjoy the grilling during homecoming. Others patiently waited behind Tubbs for their own seasoning and extras on their burgers.

## « Sneaking food

Seniors Susan Clausen and Paige Greenfield munch on buns while trying to keep warm at tailgating. "We were patiently waiting for hamburgers, but I got hungry so I secretly ate a bun and hid another one in my pocket for my burger," Clausen said.

# The Different components of Tailgating



photo by Felicia Hoover

## ≈ eating

Talking and joking around, junior Charlie Goff and senior Becky Heffling enjoy some of the tailgating buns. "My favorite part of tailgating was hanging out with my friends," Goff said. "Even though the food wasn't that good, at least they had free pop."

## socializing ≈

While waiting for the rest of her friends to come Junior Lauren Lund plays some football. "I was playing football because I was one of the only girls there and I wanted to do something," Lund said. "I like tailgating because it's great to hang out before the games."



photo by Erin Funk

## ≈ grilling

Huddling around the grill for food and warmth sophomore Miles Summa tries to stay in the group. "I don't do the grilling. I was waiting for my burger," Summa said. "I really like the burgers, they are a great way to fill you up before the games."



photo by Erin Funk

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# Goals Achieved just short of dreams

## Success in Season Causes Disappointment at State

Anticipation was building as the volleyball team waited for Cedar Falls to serve. The ball came flying over the net, sending the girls diving onto the floor, trying to control the pass, and failing to get into their offensive scheme. "We played one of our worst games, it was so disappointing," senior Susan Clausen said. "[The game] was intimidating, and it's one of those things that you can't explain to another player. But it was like I was watching myself play."

"The girls lacked some communication and struggled to pass as well as they needed," coach Rick Brooks said. "That made it hard for them to get into a rhythm." Brooks believed the girls did not play "their game", which usually consisted of a strong offense.

The girls dreamed of making it to state, and they knew there was a chance to win. When they lost in the first round, they were disappointed. "Last year, we went down (to Cedar Rapids) to watch. We sat in the stands and talked about how we would be there next year," senior Kelsey Kovacevich said. "It was really hard to be on the bench watching the team struggle."

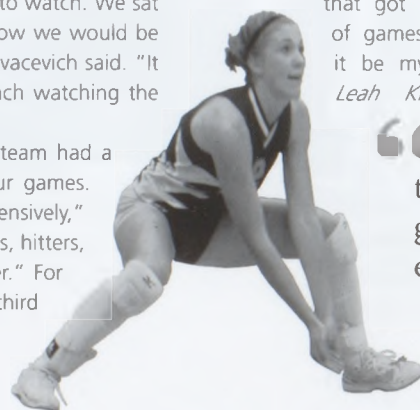
Despite the loss at state, the team had a victorious season, losing only four games. "The team was very strong offensively," Brooks said. "We had good servers, hitters, attackers, and a very strong setter." For some of the players, it was their third year playing varsity.

Their success did not derive solely from talent. Players thought they were successful because they got along very well. "We were so close," sophomore Abby Sonner said. "We did a lot together. I'm really going to miss the seniors because they were so nice and welcoming, and they helped me improve so much."

Many of the seniors felt the same way. "I'm going to miss the team," Kovacevich said. "We got along so well, it was like we were sisters." According to Kovacevich, many members of the team had been friends since they were young.

"We had a good nucleus of seniors mixed with a good nucleus of younger girls," assistant coach Beth Ward said. Ward believed the closeness of the team helped the girls feel comfortable, therefore allowing them to use their talent.

"The season was one of those seasons that you dream of," Clausen said. "You have a team that got along, and we won a lot of games. It was amazing to have it be my senior year." *Spread by Leah Kron and Hannah Smith*



"I think the best moment was the moment we knew we were going to state. Everyone was so excited. It was perfect."

—Emily Kuster '07

The girls' varsity volleyball team gathers around each other after their victorious win. A cameraman got a high-angle shot of the girls by hoisting up his camera. The girls won against Marshalltown at Saydel 3-0. "I think that we had a great year overall and we were a close team that I'm going to miss everyone," sophomore Abby Sonner said.



photo by Cary Gagne

Setting up chairs for the season's first game, juniors Brianna Stone, Brianna Bensen, Leah Embrey, and Leslie Tinnermeier work to get them in order. "I had a lot of issues getting the chairs unfolded, but otherwise setting up for the varsity games wasn't so bad, because we were pretty darn good benchwarmers," junior Brianna Stone said.



# Pass

photo by Cory Gagne



Senior Lindsey Cosgriff subs in for sophomore Taylor Knuth at districts in a match against Marshalltown. Winning led them on to the state tournament. "I'm sad that this is our last year, there were lots of tears, but I feel that next season is going to be good, even with us gone," Cosgriff said.



photo by Leah Kron



photo by Dan Haight



photo by Leah Kron



photo by Grace Meyers

Focusing on the game, sophomore Abby Sonner serves the ball to Dowling. Sonner said, "Other than playing hard, the thing I like most about volleyball is all of the people you meet. It's a ton of fun and you get to know so many people."

Sophomore Kate Nielson hugs senior Sarah Froehlich while presenting her with a senior gift during senior night. The varsity girls won their match against Dowling 3-1. "Senior night was emotional, but we knew we had another game at home for regionals, so it wasn't that sad," Froehlich said.

Senior Erica Warren practices passing the volleyball and works on perfecting her skills before a match at the state tournament on Nov. 8. "We do cheers and play the look game, and it pumps us all up for a game," Warren said. The girls ended their season in the first match at the state tournament against Cedar Falls.



Lincoln  
 CR Washington Tournament  
 @ Wautee  
 Fort Dodge  
 Ballard Invite  
 Anteny  
 Indianola  
 Urbandale Invite  
 @ Urbandale  
 Okaloosa Tournament  
 Dowling  
 @ Pella Christian  
 Johnston Invite  
 South East Polk  
 Wautee (substate)  
 Marshalltown (substate at Saydel)  
 Cedar Falls (state)

3-1  
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First Team All-State  
 Susan Clausen

All State Elite Team  
 Susan Clausen

First Team All-Conference  
 Susan Clausen  
 Emily Gustafson  
 Laurel Hager

CIML Elite Team  
 Susan Clausen  
 Emily Gustafson

Volleyball Classic  
 Susan Clausen  
 Emily Gustafson  
 Coach Rick Brooks

Second Team All-Conference  
 Taylor Smith  
 Abby Smith

Honorable Mention All-Conference  
 Lauren Plimley

Coach of the Year  
 Rick Brooks



photo by Cory Gagne

Senior Susan Clausen practices good sportsmanship by shaking her opponent's hand. Clausen received 4A first team all-state, all state elite team, first team all conference, CIML elite team, and the volleyball classic throughout her season. The varsity girls won their match against Lincoln 3-1.



photo by Cory Gagne

Senior Kelsey Kovacevich awaits junior Colby Lindsey's serve to opponent Lincoln. "I love being a part of a team and the physical challenges that you have to endure in volleyball," Lindsey said.

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## Snapping a Photo »

Taking pictures, senior Antonio Rodriguez crouches down at the state journalism convention. Rodriguez participated in the on-the-spot photography contest where he captured moments of the day.

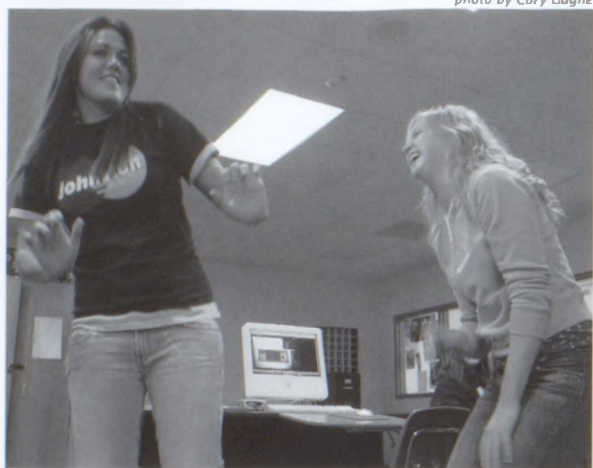
*photo by Abby Weaver*



## Shake Your Tailfeather »

Grooving down, junior Leah Kron and senior Grace Meiners dance at the Fall Festival party. "There was a competition of music going on, but then 'Baby Got Back' [by Sir Mix-a-Lot] came on and we turned off the other music," Kron said. "We were the only ones dancing; everyone else sat around and laughed at us."

*photo by Cory Gagne*



*photo by Caitlin Larkin*

## « Lending a Helpful Hand

Juniors Bethany Christenson and Cory Gagne adjust the camera so Gagne can take pictures during her free period. "Cory was going to take English pictures so I was helping her fix the camera to the right setting," Christenson said.



# design steals scrapbook style

Changes to design improve appeal, appearance of yearbook

Late nights in the journalism lab were nothing uncommon for the yearbook staff. Although conjuring up a theme that would stick—"Blown Away"—and arranging dozens of layouts so no two looked alike was difficult and time-consuming, the staff thought it was well-worth it in the end. "The attention to detail in this book is important," coeditor senior Grace Meiners said. "It makes it look really put-together."

According to junior Cory Gagne, the design in *The Dragon* was different than it had ever been before. "[The staff] put in more work than ever," Gagne said. "I think it will really pay off for us, especially in competitions." Gagne thought the staff always wrote well and took good photos, but the added element of good design would make things better.

Not only did the work ethic change, the design did as well. Overall, the book was modified to look more personalized. "We decided to move away from the clean cut, typical yearbook layouts we have had in the past," coeditor senior Kiley Dewhurst said. "We wanted a book that was more like a

scrapbook of memories."

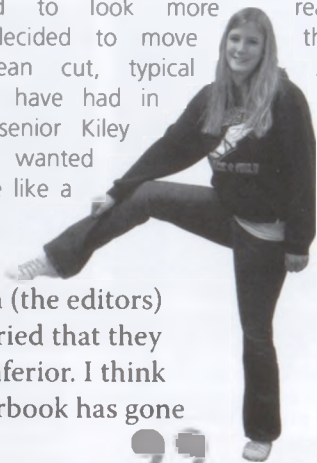
While the staff loved the layouts, deciding the theme got off to a rocky start. "[The theme] was pretty much a Clash of the Titans," junior Nicolette Ward said. "In the end, we realized we needed to be productive so we compromised."

Dewhurst, on the other hand, thought the dispute improved the book. "It made our book much better," she said. "They pushed us to our best limits."

The cover of the book tied in with the scrapbook look as well. Photo editor senior David Zorn designed the cover in about two weeks. "I tried to give the cover the same feel as a scrapbook," he said. "I like brown, so there is a lot of that in it."

Students in the class hoped the changes made to the book were good enough to help them win competitions. "I think the staff realizes all the hard work they put into the book was worth our time," junior Alle Moffitt said. "I hope we will win competitions, but the most important thing is that the students who receive [the book] will think we did a great job." *spread by Caitlin Larkin*

“We can approach (the editors) without being worried that they will make us feel inferior. I think that is why the yearbook has gone more smoothly.”  
Katie Norris '09



## First-Timer ≡

Freshman Megan Kellogg receives feedback from senior Grace Meiners about photo-placing. "It was my first week in the class and Grace was showing me how to place photos," Kellogg said.



photo by Abby Weaver

photo by Caitlin Larkin



photo by Caitlin Larkin

## « Advising the Freshman

Suggesting freshman Dani Stansberry use active verbs, adviser Leslie Shipp explains how to write a caption well. "She was also helping me figure out what class someone was in so I could interview him," Stansberry said.

## « Comparing Yearbooks

Juniors Alle Moffitt, Allison McGrew, and Sammy McConeghey browse through other schools' books at the state journalism convention. "We were picking out things we liked from the yearbook to try and incorporate them into ours," McConeghey said.





# new elements of design

## ≈ polaroids

Pictures that go into the book are spruced up with the use of a polaroid effect; senior Megan Browning looks at a photo set on a page. "The polaroids are new and different," junior Ciera Lundgren said. "I think they make people want to look at the pictures more closely."



photo by Caitlin Larkin

## sidebars ≈

Senior Kiley Dewhurst corrects a sidebar. According to Dewhurst, the sidebars added additional information to the page and provided more design options. "I was drawn to the sidebars," sophomore Matthew Courtney said. "They are more eye appealing and fun to read."



photo by Caitlin Larkin



## ≈ cutouts

Senior David Zorn cuts a picture out for his page. Cutouts became more abundant, as they appeared on almost every page. "The cutouts are a great way to get more people in the book," sophomore Erin Funk said. "They show people's personalities and fit with the scrapbooking theme."



photo by Caitlin Larkin



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winter

## Going Big Places

spread by david zorn

A Blizzard struck twice in February and March cutting power and making it difficult to venture down to Wells Fargo for the final night of state wrestling, where three out of seven of our very own represented Johnston on the podium. The weather became so bad that we received our first snow day in three years!

Winter blew in more than just snow: bowling became a sanctioned sport, GSA (Gay-Straight Alliance) submitted a contract to the board after months of hard work by a few dedicated students, and the politicians returned to Iowa, this time on a national scale in preparation for the 2008 caucuses. Copy by Kiley Dewhurst

Winter



# NEW V DICTION OF THE AMERIC

photo by Dan Haight



Sioux City North's Beau Grill, freshman, eyes the referee as junior Josh South takes him down in the first round of the state tournament. South won his match against Grill but lost in the second round of matches to Derek St. John who went on to win in the 135 weight class.

photo by Dan Haight



A young protester demonstrates outside of Hope Lutheran Church in West Des Moines. The group from Westboro Baptist Church held several protests in the Des Moines area during the last weekend in January.

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



Junior Jonathan Emheiser concentrates as he performs during the Winter Assembly held in the large gym. The assembly honored all winter sports and accomplishments of different groups and organizations.





photo by Katie Norris

Trying to decide what to order at Panera, senior Tine Schempp finally chooses a House Latte. Schempp had decided to go to Panera before drama practice with juniors Molly Suddeth and Katie Norris.



photo by Abby Weaver

Sophomore Taylor Knuth performs a hang clean for WOW: Women's Off Season Workout. "I get to stay in shape and also hang out with all my friends that go and I play volleyball with," Knuth said.



photo by Allison McGrew

Working at Hy-Vee, junior Kayla Birmingham rings up a customer's total. "I needed a job and it's a great place to work because the people here are always friendly, like a big family," Birmingham said.

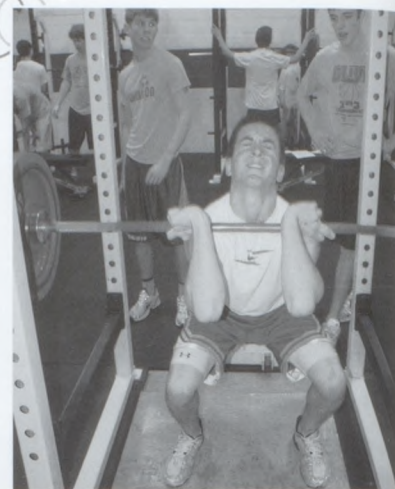
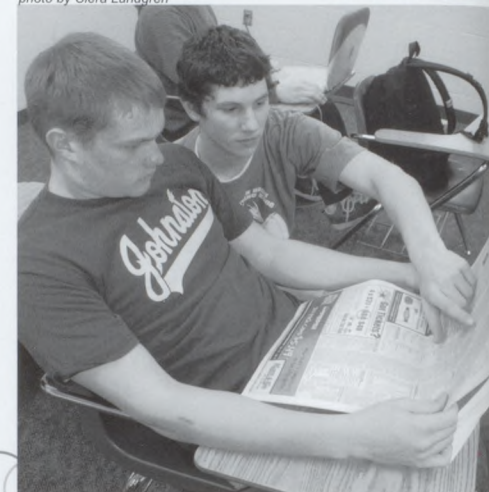


photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Straining his muscles, sophomore Justin Hoellein squats during winter off-season weightlifting. Hoellein went to stay in shape for the sports he played such as football, baseball, and track.

photo by Ciera Lundgren



Junior Nick Hunsberger points out an article in the sports section of the paper to junior Tyler Wengert. "We were killing time before Kinder's class," Hunsberger said.

# december...



photo by Cory Gagne

Sophomore Alan Nagel helps junior Cory Gagne as their Sunday school class rehearses for their annual Christmas Concert. "It's a lot of fun to go once a week and teach a lot of little kids," Nagel said. "I learn something new every week."



photo by Erin Funk

Donating time to the Salvation Army, seniors Julia Zhang and Katie Howe stand in front of Fareway collecting money. "We worked three different weekends to help out student council and SAIL," Howe said.



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

Celebrating her 18th birthday, senior Hannah Levine reads a card that she had received from her father. Along with the card, Levine also got jewelry, gas cards and perfume.



photo by Grace Meiners

Seniors Carly Hammer, Kelsey Hyde and Anne Ruebbelke open gifts at Ruebbelke's house, where Hyde was given a winter hat. "We did a secret Santa party and (my hat) was one of the gifts I got from Erica Weirich," Hyde said.



Senior Quinn Bailey



# Khaki *wednesday* intrigues students

[ *One senior's idea turns into a weekly tradition* ]



*Photo by Cicely Gordon*

Some of the founding seniors of Khaki Wednesday were Luke Knee, Troy Nielson, Collin Coughlon, Chris Williamson, Matt Burch, John Peitzman, and Jay Quick. "I hope it would be carried into the next few years. I have been doing it since I was a junior, I don't think it's just a phase," John Peitzman said.

With a push of a button on his cell phone Tuesday night, senior Matt Burch alerted the Khaki Wednesday crew of the following day's duds. Every Wednesday, those involved donned a specialized orange polo and either khaki shorts or pants.

The idea started during Burch's first semester modern literature class in 2005. "I was just wearing khakis that day and (senior) John Peitzman came up to me and asked why," Burch said. "I said, 'It's Khaki Wednesday,' and it just clicked."

Peitzman, Burch and a few others began to wear the outfits during the '05-'06 school year, but the trend really began to take off during December of '06 with the purchase of specialized polos. "There was a handful of us that had been wearing khakis for a while," Peitzman said. "We really didn't get the recognition until the shirts came out."

Originally, Burch and the other members wanted to purchase the polos from Broken Arrow, but once they discovered it would cost \$60-\$70 per polo, they decided to try a different strategy for buying polos.

Senior Chris Williamson decided to ask boys' golf coach Steve Smith for help. A friend of Smith's was a Nike apparel representative for Iowa and had provided the boys' high school golf team with all the Nike attire. With Smith's connections, the boys were able to purchase their polos for \$41 each.

With the new shirts ready to go, the group was ready to make its official debut. "The first time (we wore the polos) there were a lot of looks," Burch said.

However, those confused stares soon turned into inquiry. "When we started to get the polos in December a bunch of people wanted in, mostly choir kids at first but then it expanded," Burch said.

The group's popularity expanded beyond the school walls and into their homes. Peitzman said, "My mom thought Khaki Wednesday was sweet and she liked the orange shirt a lot." When Burch told his parents he was getting the shirts they thought it was crazy and funny. "I would go downstairs for breakfast and they would give me weird looks and they would say 'Oh, yeah, it's Khaki Wednesday.'" Because of the large interest, Burch proclaimed Khaki Wednesday the best weekly holiday. *Spread by Amanda Gabbert and Antonio Rodriguez*

“(In December) we went to Arizona to see my family and while we were there I climbed a mountain.”  
-Anna Lurns '09







Juniors Laura Hilby, Maggie Thilges and Katherine Burggraaf hide under a pool table while looking at the photos they just took. The three were at Hilby's house enjoying a night in.

photo by Leah Kron



photo by Grace Meiners

Brothers Austin, senior, and Andy, sophomore, Golightly show their moves during Winter Formal. Austin and Andy drove together to the dance while Austin met up with sophomore Amanda Gabbert.

New York's Senator Hillary Clinton claps after a comment from a supporter. Clinton came to East High School in Des Moines as a part of her Conversation with Iowa Campaign. After talking for approximately twenty minutes on her platform, she opened the floor to questions from interested attendees.



photo by Grace Meiners

photo by Sam Dearden



Senior Dawn Wilkens sips her beverage while watching Adel graduate Chris Bailey leaf through photos on his digital camera during a lunch at IHOP. Senior Blake Boever and junior Sam Dearden also attended the lunch. "Sam had found out that I had never been to IHOP," Wilkens said, "so she wanted to take me."

# January...



photo by Emily Roeser

Senior Makea Sanders corrects papers for her seventh hour service credit with history teacher Alicia Rollison. Sanders helped Rollison throughout the first semester.



photo by Allison McGrew

Freshman Sarah Johnson succeeds in making sophomore Emily Meng laugh at youth group. The two were playing "Honey I love you," a game in which one person attempts to make others laugh at The Bridge, a part of Meredith Drive Reformed Church in Urbandale.



photo by Erin Funk

Sophomore Mickey Greene signs a picture during a tanning session at Classic Tan. In order to ensure patrons weren't using other people's tanning time, customers were asked to sign in and also have their fingerprint scanned.



photo by Matthew Courtney

Sophomore Lindsay Timmons snaps a picture during a bowling meet. She and sophomore Tara McCulluy decided to cheer on the team during their meet against South East Polk. The team later won with the girls' support.



Taylor Govey & Alex Swanson



# C-SPAN *bus* rolls into town

[ Government students experience media in a bus ]



photo by Van Haight



Government students listen while Doug Hemmig, C-SPAN's Community Relations Representative, explains the many uses of the bus. After the students learned about the different amenities, they called into the show *Washington Journal* to ask questions they had about the government.

Senior Jenna Winzenburg knew she was talkative, but never before had this trait put her on national television. Winzenburg and other government students were given this opportunity when the C-SPAN bus, a fully-equipped television studio on wheels made a stop at the high school parking lot as a part of its "Road to the White House 2008" tour.

Government teacher Jackie Norris was integral in persuading the bus to show off its amenities after experiencing it herself. "Last year I had the opportunity to see the C-SPAN bus, and I thought it would be great if it could come to Johnston," she said. After acquiring the bus by requesting it through a friend at Mediacom, Norris knew she wanted the students as active as possible while on the bus. "One of the things I wanted was to have the students involved," Norris said. "I wanted them to actually be able to talk to somebody." The students were able to call in and ask questions to a live television show, C-SPAN's *Washington Journal*.

Although students in Norris's government classes were given the opportunity to tour the bus, only a select few asked questions directed to the show. Norris asked all government teachers to select their most politically interested and involved students; Winzenburg was one of them. "I work at WHO, which is a news-talk radio, so I'm very interested politically," she said.

"We got on the bus and there were two big screen TVs and a glass door which divided the bus," Winzenburg said. "The Media Relations person told us that when we wanted to make a call, we had to go to the back of the bus." While waiting, the students were able to watch the show in progress and listen to their classmates' questions and then the responses.

Junior Doug Haefeale found the tables

turned when he asked the journalist on the show about his most memorable moment in his career. The journalist then began to inquire about Haefeale's future plans, "The guy was asking me about college," Haefeale said. "He thought it was all seniors who were participating in it."

The C-SPAN bus had been in use since 1997 according to Tamara Robinson, a marketing representative for C-SPAN who toured with the bus; however, the Road to the White House tour had started a week prior to its stop at the high school. Because of the early caucuses, Robinson felt that it was appropriate to start the tour in Iowa. "We wanted to kick off in a place with an impact," she said. "The caucuses have a direct impact on the presidential cycle."

Winzenburg was excited not only to participate in a live television news show but also for the coverage the school received. "Usually when candidates or media come to Iowa," Winzenburg said, "they go to more urban schools so it was unusual for the bus to come to a suburban school."

Haefeale also shared Winzenburg's enthusiasm. "I thought it was pretty cool, but that's coming from a guy who thinks government is cool," he said. *Spread by Grace Meiners*



“January may be cold, but I still wore shorts everyday because the time I spend inside outweighs the time I spend outside, so I dress so that I'm comfortable.”  
-Michael Hols '08





photo by Sammy McConeghey

Junior Liz Fuller performs the national anthem before a basketball game. In order to calm her nerves, she listened to encouraging words. "My friends and my family tell me that I'll be fine so I listen to them and take really deep breaths," she said.



photo by Grace Meiners

Senior Joe Pavelka waits for the referee to pass him the ball before attempting a free throw. Pavelka was playing on the team Faith Plus One team, sponsored by the Johnston Evangelical Free Church.

Athletic Director Gary Ross announces the qualifiers for the state wrestling meet during the Feb. 27 assembly. The assembly recognized the winter sport teams along with other academic groups who had participated in competitions.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Katie Norris

Industrial Technology teacher Mitch Eagles assists junior Mike Traxel prior to leaving for the TSA competition. Traxel competed in Tech Bowl, a game where the participants had to answer questions about technology. Traxel and juniors Alex Stanboro and Rachel Stanley won first place in the contest.

# february...



photo by Sam Dearden

Junior Alyssa Patten and senior Emeri Sams watch the Super Bowl at the Ankeny Church of Christ. Sams was happy for the win of the Colts and also that it was the first time two African Americans were the head coaches. "I was excited that my team won," she said, "and it also was a huge thing for African Americans."



photo by Megan Browning

Girls' basketball coach Rich Gradoville tapes senior Micah Casey's ankle before practice. Casey's ankle because the regular athletic trainer, Mark Pierson, was in the hospital due to a heart condition.

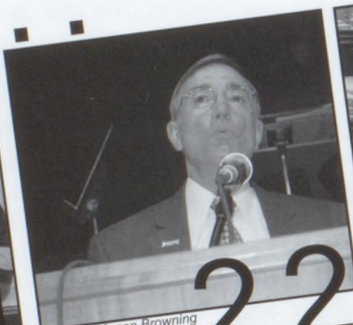


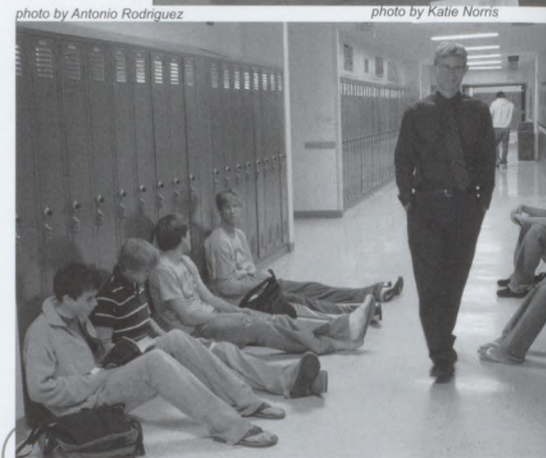
photo by Megan Browning

Iowa State University president Gregory L. Geoffroy talks to prospective students in the auditorium. Those who attended received information on the college and also a small Cy doll.



photo by Allison McGrew

Junior Eric Olguin folds shirts while working at Hollister. Folding clothes was a part of the normal workday for all employees including many Johnston students.



After getting kicked out of their normal writing lab, English teacher Josh Welter and his class spend the rest of the period in the hallway. The class got kicked out of the lab due to a schoolwide technology survey which required computer use.



# Seniors haul snow for backyard sessions

[Students create their own snowboarding runs]



Juniors Renee Pike and Brady Cooper

photo by David Zorn



Senior Paul Halterman treks up a hill during an afternoon of sledding and snowboarding. Halterman was grateful for the snowfall because it allowed him to use his snowboard, which had only been used on the fake snow of Sleepy Hollow for the previous two years.

After two and a half hours of loading and unloading snow, the 350-foot run was covered and ready to be carved. When Iowa's weather was lacking, senior Chris Williamson and friends hauled snow from the local Buc's Arena to cover a hill they loved to snowboard in Williamson's backyard.

"We had the idea in the past to haul snow from the Buc's arena, but we never got around to doing it," Williamson said. "At the arena, they just dump ice shavings out of the back of the Zamboni thing to melt and we take it, and we haven't had any problems doing that."

Williamson hauled snow in his own trailer along with seniors Troy Nielsen, Austin Strawhacker, Eric Tubbs and Scott Cronin.

"This is the first year we've hauled snow," Williamson said. According to Williamson, usually he, Cronin and Strawhacker snowboarded the hill in the winter. Once they started hauling snow, larger groups began coming, including some junior and senior guys.

"It takes about two and a half hours to load the snow, drive it to Chris' and put it on his hill," Tubbs, who helped haul snow in his

truck bed, said. "I'm going to start snowboarding, and it's something I want to learn, so that's why I'm helping Chris and everyone haul snow."

According to Tubbs, it was not the easiest job to unload the snow onto the Williamsons' hill.

"We started out trying to back down the hill to unload the snow and the hill is so steep my truck stalled out," Tubbs said. Once the hill was covered though, the fun began.

"It's a pretty cool session when we have eight or ten guys," Williamson said.

According to Williamson, a lot of what he had on his hill was make-shift, but no one had gotten seriously hurt.

"At the end of the hill, we built a jump over the road and it's about a twenty-five foot gap to get over," Williamson said.

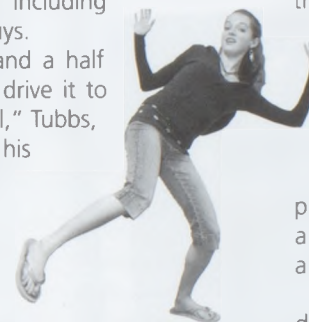
The road gap, along with one other small ramp, two boxes and a rail, were what Williamson and friends had put together for their runs down the hill.

"One time I went off a jump, did a 360, landed it, but then the landing was flat so my knees buckled and I hit my mouth," senior snowboarder Tommy Stroud said.

According to Cronin, Williamson's parents didn't mind the boys' snowboarding, and just made sure they were not doing anything dumb or dangerous.

"We tried to jump a Jeep once, but his dad wouldn't let us," Nielsen said.

Even if they couldn't make every jump, the group still thought highly of themselves. "We're all sick at snowboarding," Cronin said. *Story by Kelsey Hyde The Black and White, Spread by Grace Meiners*



“[In February] I went skiing with my friends at Sleepy Hollow and it was the second time I've skied so I didn't do very well. I was always falling down.”  
-Allison Kane '09

# Physical Education

## tending the goal

Senior Eric Tubbs defends the goals while keeping a watchful eye on his opponents during a game of hockey. "We got a pretty hard workout, but we always had fun doing it," Tubbs said. In track three P.E., Tubbs also played flag football, volleyball and basketball.



photo by Leah Kron

## waiting for the hit

Junior Alex Battani prepares himself to hit the raquetball back to his opponent during track two P.E. Students first acquainted themselves with the game, then had the opportunity to participate in a tournament.



photo by Cory Gagne

## sit and reach for it

Sophomores Beth Mickael and Ta Galler participate in a pilates video during track one PE. The majority of the class took place in the wrestling room because of the large mat space.



photo by Steven Crain



# Sophomore English, Modern Lit American Lit, American Composition English

photo by Amanda Gabbert



photo by Kiley Dewhurst

## taking a close look at the text

Seniors Tyler Foster-Stavneak and Nick Scholten rifle through stylebooks while working on an assignment to help them prepare for a future paper on Flannery O'Connor. Sarah Wessling's AP English students studied O'Connor's repertoire with a concentration on four of her short stories. "We were basically doing pointless busy work- MLA citations," Foster-Stavneak said.



## Time for a Debate

Sophomore Matthew Courtney argues the positive aspects of window tinting in a debate against opponent sophomore Austin Carlise. "Every time I came up with a reason why the window tinting law was good, Austin always had something to say to prove it wrong," Courtney said.

## presenting with a partner

Sophomore Sam Parker presents his project on courage during World War I while sophomore Josiah South looks on. "The project was easy, but interesting," Parker said. Parker and South were students in Melissa White's sophomore English class.



photo by Matthew Courtney

“What is there not to love about English? It's kind of the glue of our lives because it makes us able to communicate, which makes life easier for everyone.”  
-Rachel Binner '08

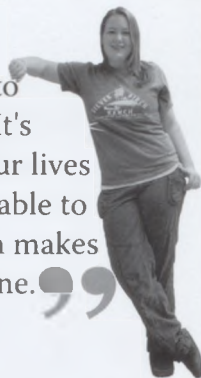


photo by Ciera Lundgren



## clicking through slides

Junior Jess Gambrel presents her current event during Jerry Kinder's AP U.S. History class about a factory blast. Each student was required to give one formal current event presentation per quarter.



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

# U.S. History, Government, AP World Studies American History, AP U.S. History, Government Social Studies

## Notable Action

Sophomore Amber Morales completes her homework assignment during Alicia Rollison's World History class. "The class is challenging, but we have fun," Morales said, as she finished the worksheet related to WWI and its effects on the world.

photo by Dan Haight



photo by Leah Kron

### walking the halls

Senior Yecdanny Jimenez walks through the halls with sophomore Hope Christopher. Students had the opportunity to work with special education students in Physical Education Opportunities Provided for Exceptional Learners (P.E.O.P.E.L.) taught by Brian Lutter.



### Campaign trail hits Iowa

Presidential candidate Barack Obama, a U.S. senator from Illinois, makes a campaign stop at the Polk County Convention Center in Des Moines on Feb. 21. Government teacher and democratic activist Jackie Norris gave tickets to her students to attend the event.

### reviewing for a test

History teacher Jeremy Yenger answers junior Chris Durand's question. Students prepared for a test over World War II by using notecards to put events in order.

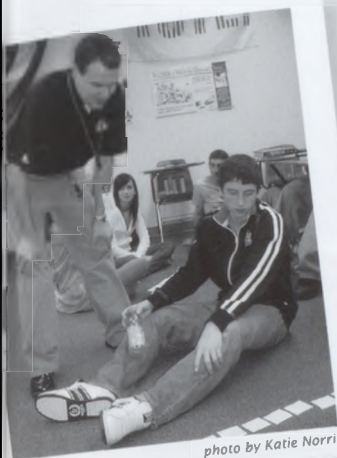


photo by Katie Norris

### assuming an agency

Senior Taylor Adams creates a sign for the National Security Council, the agency she represented in government teacher Ben Knight's class. Students had to craft a plan of response to a terrorist attack acting as different bureaucratic agencies.







# a presidential call

## government teacher's political involvement attracts attention

Normally, all phone usage by the staff fell under the "strictly prohibited" category within the school's walls. However, one important call allowed for some rule bending. The call was from Illinois senator and 2008 presidential candidate, Barack Obama, and the recipient was government teacher Jackie Norris. "(Barack Obama) left a message, and when I first told my students they were kind of like 'Oh, no way', but they started to believe me when they heard that he left his phone number," Norris said.

Students had a hard time swallowing the fact that Barack Obama, the charismatic orator and recently declared presidential candidate, had called anyone, let alone a government teacher they saw on a daily basis. "I didn't believe her!" senior Cassidy Williams said. "But later I wasn't so surprised. Mrs. Norris has a lot of connections."

Norris did have an extensive resumé in democratic politics. She worked for former Vice President Gore during his term in the White House, in the Department of Housing and Urban Services on Capital Hill, as well as for former Iowa governor Tom Vilsack. Then she proceeded to teach government, which she had been doing for three years before she landed at Johnston. "I've had the opportunity to work in government for eight years, and it's fun to be able to help students interact with their government and realize how accessible it is," Norris said.

Even knowing their teacher's past, students were baffled as to why Obama called. "They were curious as to why he called, and I explained that Iowa is a small area and that I'm very politically active." Since Iowa was one of the first states to hold presidential caucuses, Obama was already planning for the 2008 election.

Senior Larissa French found inspiration in Norris' background in politics. "Being a Democrat, it doesn't bother me at all, but I know it bothers some of the Republicans," French said. "I think it's really cool that she can teach from experience."

Norris was able to show how political involvement was not the waste of time society depicted it as, catching her students off guard, and making them wonder if cell phones shouldn't become a mandatory part of class, just in case of presidential candidate calls. "I thought it was so cool," senior Rebecca Stoeker said. "It was just amazing that he would call." *spread by Cory Gagne and Hanna Souhrada*

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photo by Kiely Dewhurst

Biology, Chemistry, Anatomy  
AP Biology, Physics, AP Chemistry

## Science



photo by Leah Kron

### Silently Pleading

Senior Abby Gumina hangs over the side of the bleachers, preparing to drop the juice carton containing her egg. Students of Brad Jacobson's Physics classes tossed their projects off the bleachers as the final stage of their Egg Drop lab.



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

### A Shocking Experience

Science teacher Kyla Burns shocks sophomore Kate Nielsen's hand during biology class. "She kept turning (it) up to see if it hurt or how bad (it hurt)," Nielsen said. Burns shocked each member of her class, giving each the experience of a current running through their arm.

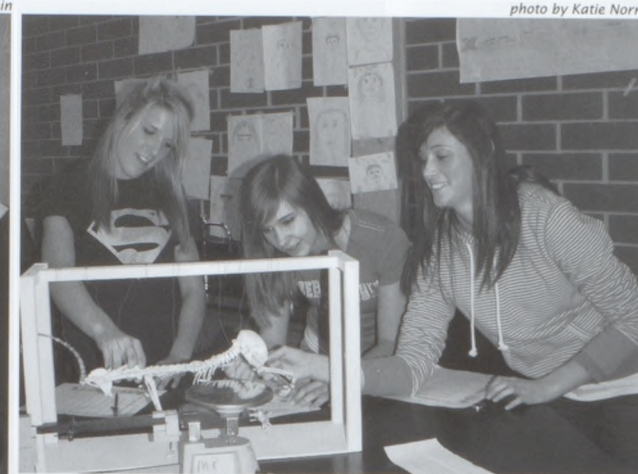


photo by Katie Norris

### Deadly Amusement

Sophomores Tiffany Camp, Krystal Lewis and Cali Kness study the jaw of a skeleton attempting to identify the species. Despite initial uneasiness, the three eventually enjoyed the lab. "It was actually kind of cool to touch something dead," Lewis said.

Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus  
AP Calculus AB, AP Statistics, Computer Science

## Mathematics

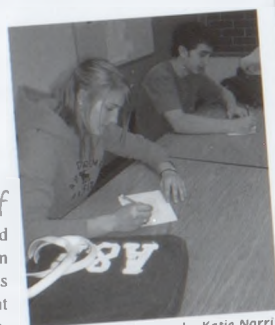


photo by Katie Norris

### Tee Off

Sophomores Nikki Sullivan and Adam Frakes play math golf in Adam Retzlaff's Algebra 2 class. Golf was intended to boost students' involvement and concentration.



"I don't teach in my (own) classroom very often. I have to carry a cart around because I have pinched nerves in my back from carrying a backpack."  
-Brian Reece, math teacher



photo by Allison McGrew

### Graphing in 3D

Junior Courtney Coakley plots her way through a worksheet covering the X,Y,Z graphing concept in Adam Retzlaff's Algebra 2 class. Coakley found the concept confusing initially, but Retzlaff's detailed explanation cleared her befuddlement.

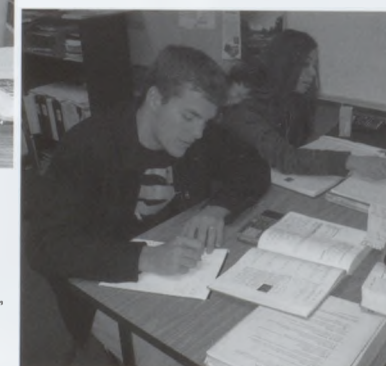


photo by Leah Kron

### Break Out the Calculators

Senior Grant Dippold and Taylor Adams work on homework in Steve Smith's Pre-calculus class. "I don't really like math, but the teacher is good," Adams said.

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The Mallory Urban Loft

Hilton  
Garden Inn

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photo by Katie Norris

# Geometry for Juniors

## Juniors Invade What is Typically Sophomore Territory

Geometry usually registered as a class jam-packed with sophomores, but when given a closer look, juniors helped fill the desks. Juniors were scattered throughout geometry classes, though each junior had a different story to tell. A transfer student from Saydel, junior Alyssa Turnquist, found herself in geometry due to Saydel's math sequence: Algebra 1, Algebra 2, then geometry. Johnston's contrasting order of required math--Algebra 1, geometry, Algebra 2--landed Turnquist in the underclassmen-dominated course. "I think I should have taken geometry before Algebra 2," Turnquist said. "Algebra 2 was really hard for me. There's a lot I have learned in geometry that would have helped with Algebra 2."

On the other hand, various students chose to take geometry their junior year. Every class had its fans and opponents; for some, math was that sore spot that determined their decisions. "It's the first time I've taken [geometry]," junior Zach Kendall said. "It's my worst subject and I like other classes better than math." Specifically, the effort required made math unpopular, as expressed by senior Chris Schnell who took geometry his junior year. "I kind of took a break from math for a year," Schnell said. "I hate math, (because) I didn't want to do a lot of work."

Taking geometry as a junior did not mean that students did not meet graduation requirements. Some continued on from geometry as juniors to take four years. "Juniors can get their geometry and Algebra 2 in the same year," math teacher Danielle Pippert said. "Traditionally they (juniors) are behind one year, but with block they can get back on track." Block scheduling presented the opportunity to obtain four years of math, making geometry as a junior feasible.

Fully understanding classes was a higher priority for some, even if that meant retaking a class. "I didn't fail (algebra 1) I just wanted to make sure I understood it before I moved on," junior Alyssa Patten said. Patten wasn't the only one who retook a class, junior Michael Lunn chose to retake geometry after already passing geometry and algebra 2. "I didn't really apply myself. I decided to take it again to get a better grade," Lunn said. Being in geometry during junior year presented a little hesitation when one considered the awkwardness that occurred from being in a class with the majority of sophomores. "At first I got a lot of crap," Lunn said. "I (became) friends with sophomores, and (by) the end, they pretty much treated me (the) same." Despite obstacles, juniors, for various reasons, marched their way through geometry and kept on going. *Spread by Katie Norris, Dani Stansberry and Megan Browning*

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### Cubism

Junior Drew Houpp punches out a cube for an activity in Danielle Pippert's geometry class. "Cubes are good, it takes some skill," Houpp said. "People get really into it, we (the class) have competitions." Pippert's classes worked on the cubes nearly every day.



photo by Sam Dearden

### Arson

Junior Aleece Gustafon's hands blaze during an experiment in Chris Beghun's chemistry class. The class trapped a gaseous chemical within a bubble in their hands and set it on fire. The chemical evaporated, leaving their hands unburned.



photo by Erin Funk

### Garbage?

Sophomore Allison Kane drops her biology book into a garbage bag, testing how many the bag could hold before breaking. The class proposed and carried out their own experiments. "We compared garbage bags between Glad and Hy-Vee," Kane said.



**Developing Skill:**  
Junior Meri Russel shares her work with Mr. Weiss during photo art. "I loved learning how to develop the film after taking the photos," Russel said.

photo by Erin Funk



photo by Amanda Gabbert

**Shaping a Word:**  
Sophomore Lauren Rogers creates paper sculptures based on a inspirational word on a slip of paper. Rogers next had to draw portraits of the sculptures using shadows and reflected lights. "We all kinda wished we'd made something simpler," Rogers said.

photo by Hannah Emmerson



**Aim and Shoot:**  
Sophomore Kelsey Bowen perfects her photography skills during journalism class. The journalism class wandered the halls attempting to find photo subjects for their articles.

**Show and Tell:**  
Wearing the fire hat he brought for French show and tell, junior Alex Stanborough explains why it was his favorite toy. Students practiced their French pronunciation by reading paragraphs which they had written to the class.

**Room for Improvement:**  
Spanish teacher Angela Koob assists sophomore Max Bratard during Spanish II class. The class worked from their books in order to improve comprehension..

photo by Leah Kron



photo by Erin Funk

**Creating an Icon:**  
Sophomore Ashley Hoogenakker works on an icon during Advanced Computer Applications class. Hoogenakker found the class incredibly interesting.

photo by Grace Meiners



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

**Ready for Review:**  
Junior Austin Pierce chats with Intro to Business teacher Kayla Fine prior to playing Jeopardy to review. "Intro to business is interesting because it is real world stuff you can apply (to life)," Pierce said.

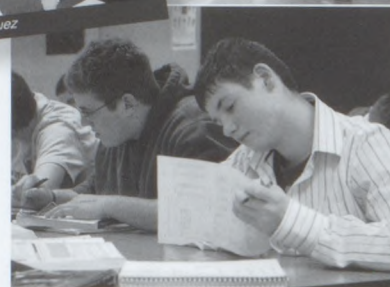


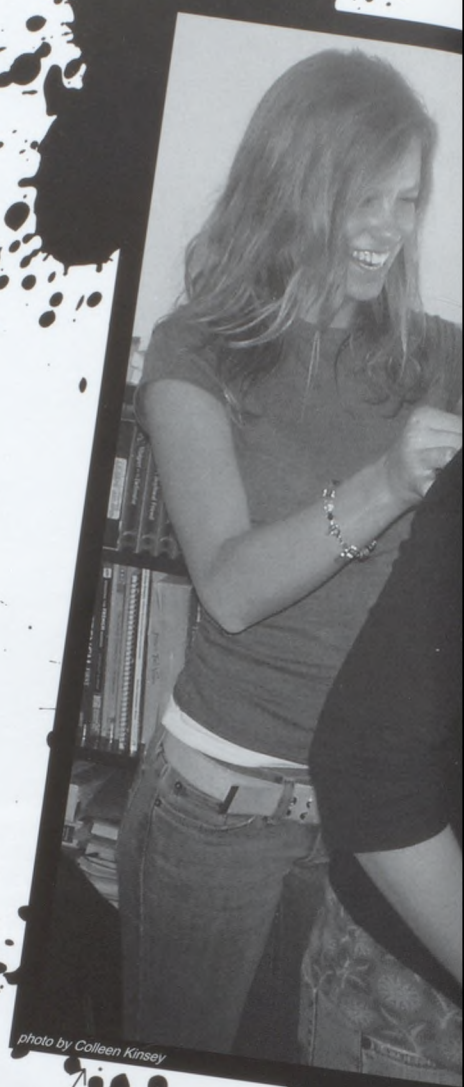
photo by Allison McGrew

**Tax Time:**  
Sophomore Ajdin Nadarevic and junior Adam Gillaspey complete their homework during accounting. "You learn how to do taxes and how to prepare ledgers and you make balance sheets," Nadarevic said.

**Dream Date:**  
Junior David Cox practices a skit for Spanish IV with junior Bradley Cleveland. "I was on a date with Brad (he was a girl) and I was asking him if we were going back to his house afterwards," Cox said.


**Banish the Fuzzies:**  
After watching the movie *Marie Antoinette*, junior Brianna Stone attempts to take the "fuzzies" off senior Julia Zhang's shirt with a piece of tape. French club spent an early dismissal watching the film, and believed it was a fun way to turn learning about French history into a social event

photo by Colleen Kinsey





# a simple suggestion starts French Club



Every day junior Colleen Kinsey strolled across the threshold of French teacher Mary Moermond's classroom, a sign taunted her mercilessly. "Ask me about French club!" read the bright purple sign. So, one day, when Moermond began a chat about school-affiliated clubs, Kinsey saw her chance: she asked about French club. However, the sign had built up a false sense of excitement, as no such club existed. Rather than succumb to the cruel joke the sign had played, Kinsey, with the assistance of junior Brianna Stone, dared to start a club on their own.

"(When we told Mrs. Moermond about our idea) she smiled and kind of laughed," Stone said. "I don't think she thought we were serious." But Stone and Kinsey were insistent on starting the club.

"(Moermond) told us to make a list of things to do, but I'm pretty sure that she didn't think that it would really happen," Kinsey said. "She took a week to decide whether there would be a club or not. Every day we would ask her and she would say that she hadn't thought about it yet, so we thought she

wasn't taking us seriously." Once Moermond approved the club, Kinsey and Stone set the first date for French club on Jan. 19, and had a sign-up sheet so that everyone who was interested could join.


"I really like how (French Club) is more student run, and Mrs. Moermond is just there to supervise," junior Rachel Stanley said. "It's nice to not need a teacher." Stone and Kinsey planned all of the meetings ahead of time, and planned activities such as watching French movies, eating French food, and sometimes studying for tests.

"We still need to get more people interested in French club," Stone said. "Right now we have enough people, but it's mostly girls. I really think that if we had more people, we could have a lot more fun with it." The club met in the mornings, because that was a time that worked for the most people.

Mrs. Moermond was very pleased with the new club. "I was pleasantly surprised," Moermond said. "The girls were very well organized. They had everything planned out: the meeting times, events, activities, everything."

According to Moermond, this club would continue to be successful in the future, as long as there were students who are enthusiastic and organized.

"I love this club because of the people in it," Kinsey said. "That is what makes it the most fun, the people who will take what you give them and turn it into something enjoyable, even if it is kind of lame or stupid to start out with. Sometimes it feels like more of a social activity than a school thing." *spread by Leah Kron, Azra Feriz, and Megan Browning.*



“I really liked the club because I like to see who was there. I didn't know a lot of those people took French, and it was nice to be able to interact with the underclassmen.”  
-Tana Friesth '07

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### Light My Fire:

Sophomore Charlie Dick hones his blowtorch skills in welding. He said that it was important that everyone practiced, and that it was an excellent way to perfect new welding skills.

photo by Grace Meiners



photo by Grace Meiners

### Testing a Table Saw:

Juniors Darin Davis and Taylor Young push a board through the table saw in wood class. "I just really liked the fact that industrial tech classes are so much different than my other classes. They're more hands-on," Young said.



photo by Grace Meiners

### Careful, Now:

Junior Jerrod Luetje chisels a board as part of his wood project. Luetje said that precision was important, because it was impossible to undo a mistake.

### My Own Little World:

Sophomore Daniel Rasmussen listens to Simon and Garfunkel as he writes for his independent project. "ELP gives me the chance and motivation to write a creative story," he said.

### Only Seven Letters?:

Sophomore Allison Kane contemplates her move in a round of "ELP Scrabble." Kane said she enjoyed the flagrant overlooking of rules common to ELP games.

photo by Felicia Hoover



photo by Felicia Hoover



photo by Felicia Hoover

### Caution: May Be Hot

Sophomore Kelsey Cashman irons, taking care not to burn herself or miss a wrinkle. "I was in clothing seminar, and we had to iron to make it look nice," Cashman said.



photo by Grace Meiners



### Pasta Preparation:

Junior Kyle Hanson and sophomore Anne Gray break noodles in culinary arts. Gray said this made the pasta cook faster, but put one in danger of splashing burns.

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



### A Stitch in Too Many Times:

Senior Rhianna Harm sews a skirt in sewing seminar. "It could get really stressful if you had to rip every stitch out which I did many, many times," Harm said.

### Picking a Tune:

Junior Joseph Broich strums his electric guitar in ELP. "I was surprised I could get school credit for doing the thing I love most: playing music," Broich said. "It felt like music school."



photo by Emily Rosser


### Building Bonds:

Senior Emily O' Keefe takes a break from construction tech to laugh at some good-natured teasing. Senior Eric Reese frequently mocked her, but she found it more fun to laugh it off.





# Students Shed Fortune



Special Education teacher Russ Fortune felt cluttered. Gazing at the piles of children's gear that had recently overtaken his garage, he knew that somehow he had to take his turf back.

He received a bit of assistance in the cleaning realm when an employee-wide email was sent out from the Industrial Tech department at the beginning of second semester regarding the students' pending shed-building project.

"I needed [a shed] to house all of my kids' toys so I can get my garage back, so I emailed him (Heyer) that I would like to have a shed built," Fortune said.

Senior Danny Fitzgerald said that the work began with building just the frame and then doing the necessary work to turn the frame into a shed--shingles, siding and a skylight.

The dangers inherent in any construction undertaking soon came into play. Fitzgerald recounted a painful

experience carrying plywood. "I was going backwards and tripped over the dust collector, and it left a huge cut in my back," he said. Senior Eric Reese said that in working on the drip edge, fascia and soffit, quite a few people walked away bleeding.

Even after the steadfast students had soldiered through their battle wounds, personalities clashed. "Some people just don't wanna[work] and some people do everything," Reese said. "It's hard to get a whole lot of work when there's so many people in the class and it's a pretty small shed."

Students felt, however, that the knowledge they gained outweighed any issues they may have faced. "If we get lost, (Heyer) will take us through it," Fitzgerald said. "It teaches you stuff actually applicable in life."

Pending the delivery of the labor of love from the construction tech shop to the Fortune homestead in a flatbed truck, he noted, "From what the shed looks like at this point, I think the kids are doing a great job." *spread by Nicolette Ward*

“Because (construction tech) is a male-dominated class, I do get caught up in the “guy talk” and it’s kind of annoying.”

Emily Roeser '07



# High Expectations Makes the Team a Target

## Starting the Season With Top Ranking Causes Extra Pressure

Walking into Ames High School for the final sub-state game, the tension was high. Nobody knew who was favored to win due to the split results against Ankeny in the regular season making nerves sky rocket. However, as the game passed on, it started to favor Ankeny. The Dragons came up short by six points, leaving the team and the fans disappointed. "Obviously it was one of the goals as a team to make state," senior Brent Barz said. "We had plenty of things going for us to be able to make it, disappointingly though, we fell short this year."

Sports Illustrated published an issue with the number one ranked boys' basketball teams in every state across the United States, with Johnston as the team for Iowa. The news of this traveled quickly, and high expectations were set for the boys' season. It was assumed that the boys would make it into state without much of a challenge.

Although the team felt honored by this

ranking, they knew that it also presented difficulties that would show up later in the season. "I liked having that ranking because I felt we were one of the top teams in the state," senior Drew Ness said, "but it made it tougher on us because it put a target on our back and everyone was gunning for us." The teams high rating meant that a lot of their opponents made goals to beat them.

New coach Bobby Sandquist also had high expectations for the team, but the pre-season ranking did not concern him as much. "I seriously don't believe that this team had to 'live up' to anything—especially a pre-season ranking," Sandquist said. "As coaches and players know, a pre-season ranking has no real value. As a result of this hype, it is only fair to assume that it motivated our opponent's who would view our team as a target."

Sandquist did not want to let all of the hype get to him. He set his own goals for the team and wanted them to become the best team they could possibly be by tournament time. According to Sandquist, the team played some of its best basketball near the end, and had won seven of their last eight games. *Spread by Antonio Rodriguez and Leah Kron*

“The Season was a lot of fun and hard at times. I'm looking forward to seeing the basketball program in years to come.”  
Chase Baumgartner '07



Standing at 6'10 being announced for the starting line up for the game against Indianola, senior Brent Barz makes his way through his fellow teammates. Barz had a total of 420 points for the season, the highest for the team.

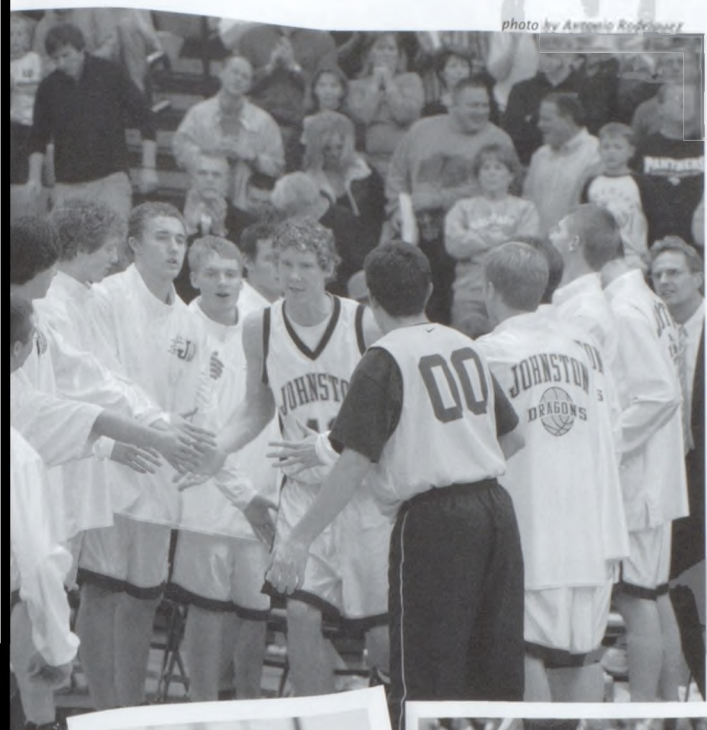


photo by Antonio Rodriguez

With Austin of Indianola trying to dribble through, sophomore Tyler Kubik shuffles his feet around to keep close contact. For the game Kubik had eight rebounds, two steals, one assist and one charge.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez



With nothing surrounding him but air, junior Tim DeSplinter launches the ball from far range in hopes of making a three pointer. For the season, he made 11 of his 38 three point shots attempted giving him a 29 percent average.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

With all concentration and eyes on the hoop, junior Michael Elming goes for a free throw shot during the game at Urbandale game. Elming had a 71 free throw percentage, making 32 of his 45 free throws for the season.

Junior Trent Fisher fights to put the ball up for a lay up as an Urbandale player reaches in to try and stop him during the game at home. "We had really hoped to come back and beat Urbandale the second time around," said Fisher.

Playing on varsity, sophomore Justin Amick goes up against junior Levell Bell of North during the first sub-state game at Johnston. "It was fun starting in my first game," junior Trent Fisher said. "North put up a good fight but we still won."

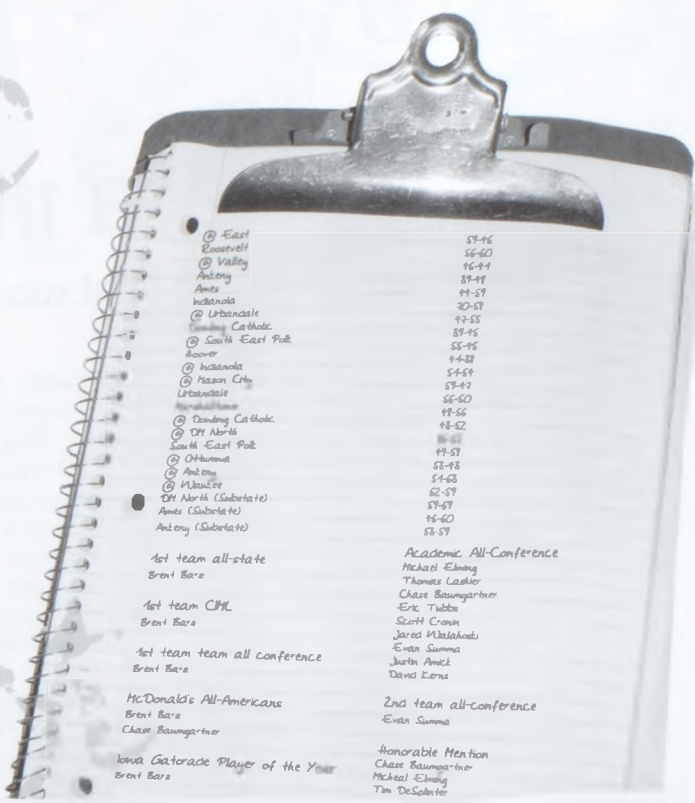


photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Senior Drew Ness and junior Evan Summa baracade an Indianola varsity player, making sure he does not achieve getting the ball. "Free throws killed us, we fouled a lot and put them on the line way too many times," said Summa. "John Lamb had 33 points, we could not contain him."

Looking up toward the American flag, new head coach Bobby Sandquist and assistant coach Chris Danner stand and give their respect for the National Anthem before the boys varsity game against Indianola. Sandquist had a successful end to his first season as coach at Johnston.





# Snow blows game

## Inclement weather forces final substate game delay and relocation

Knowing that giants filled Roosevelt's roster, coach Rich Gradoville recruited five hurculean senior men to educate his players in the ways of defeating the tall. Seniors Collin Coughlin, Luke Knee, Brian Smith, Nick Scholten, and Joe Pavelka bashed, berated and beguiled with all the effort their colossial frames allowed. "The boys were tall and could do better than us short girls," junior Maggie Thilges said.

The Lady Dragons, slated to battle Roosevelt in the final sub-state game at Urbandale, increased their practice schedule significantly in order to insure success. Playing harder, faster and with greater intensity at the venue they would face for the game, the team felt intensely confidant that they had prepared for the game. "We were so prepared and we knew we could compete with (Roosevelt)," junior Rachel Lang said.

The day of the substate game, the team ate breakfast at senior Micah Casey's house. "(Breakfast) was filled with muffins, fruit, and some kind of egg stuff," Thilges said. "It was a fun thing to do before the game, so we can get our nerves down."

After the filling breakfast, the girls headed over to Lawson Elementary School to have a walk through and get everyone in the right mind set. "We weren't intimidated," senior Micah Casey said. "We were prepared."

As the girls were getting in their cars, preparing to leave Lawson, and head to the big game, athletic director Gary Ross pulled up to the school with disappointing news. Urbandale cancelled all their substate games for the day due to bad winter

weather. "Ross told us the roads were bad because of weather and Urbandale wouldn't open the school up," Thilges said.

All of the preparation the girls did for the game had to wait until the next Monday. "We were disappointed because we were ready to play that (Saturday) night and it got changed to a school night," junior Leslie Ware said.

The game was not only on a school night, but the scenery was changed to Lincoln. According to Lang, the girls were more nervous then they were on the scheduled night. "Coach (Gradoville) could tell we were feeling a little nervous, so he pulled us together and made sure we got our nerves out in warm-ups," Lang said.

As the game went underway, the girls were able to keep up with tall players throughout the first half. "We held them to zero the first quarter and under 10 at half, but (Roosevelt) pulled away the second half of the game (with a score of 19-35)," Lang said. *Spread by Megan Browning, Ciera Lundgren and Sammy McConeghey*

“Beating all the really good teams was a lot of fun. We had to work really hard, but it paid off in the end. It felt good to accomplish that.”

-Stephanie Eckermann '08



Fighting to hold onto the ball, sophomore Abby Sonner makes a move towards the basket. The Dragons came up short by three at the end of the home game against Urbandale.



photo provided by Rick Lund

Junior Lauren Lund prepares herself to rebound the ball after a free throw during the Junior Varsity game against Indianola. The team ended the season with an overall record of 12-6.



photo provided by Rick Luna

# shoots

Reaching for the hoop, senior Micah Casey goes to shoot a basket at the varsity game against Ames. "I think we had a successful season," Casey said. "Everyone on the team got along and helped us improve and play better on the court."

photo by Dan Haight



photo by Sammy McConeghey

Holding the ball above her head, junior Leslie Ware looks for an open teammate to toss the ball to during the varsity regional game against Indianola. The Dragons went on to win the game 44-33.

photo by Sammy McConeghey



Going through her free throw routine, junior Aleece Gustafson preps for her shot. Gustafson shot a 66.7% free throw average for the season.

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



Varsity coach Rich Gradoville bends down to give his players some advice during a timeout. According to Gradoville, during the break from the game he usually told his girls to screen out, which means not letting the other team get the rebound.



② Wauke	32-36
Fort Dodge	60-61
② Cedar Rapids Xavier	92-99
② West	37-57
Lincoln	93-57
② Valley	69-60
Antony	53-99
Waco	93-99
Indianola	53-99
② Urbancade	93-96
Dowling	99-99
② Antony	25-38
② Southeast Polk	30-39
Hoover	93-30
② Indianola	12-39
② Mason City	95-23
Urbancade	37-90
Marshalltown	57-50
② Dowling	30-45
② North	59-92
② Southeast Polk	37-99
Indianola	99-33
② Wauke	95-98
② Lincoln vs Roosevelt	99-35

#### Academic All Conference

Katelyn Sunde  
Heath Casey  
Alecce Gurlafam  
Laura Hilby  
Leah Marie  
Alecce Gurlafam  
Rachel Long  
Alecce Sanner

#### First Team All-District

Katelyn Sunde  
Heath Casey

#### First Team All-Conference

Katelyn Sunde

#### Second Team All-Conference

Heath Casey

#### Honorable Mention All-Conference

Alecce Gurlafam  
Laura Hilby  
Leah Marie



photo by Sammy McConeghey

Sophomore Katelyn Sunde ponders her next move at the varsity game against Dowling. Sunde started varsity beginning her freshmen year. "Basketball is something (I) love so much; it has become my life and passion," Sunde said.



photo by Sammy McConeghey

Junior Laura Hilby searches for an out at the varsity regional game against Wauke. The girls beat the Warriors by two in the last few minutes of the game, which advanced them to the next round of the regional tournament.

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## Break Away >>

Sprinting around sophomore Jared Alfred, sophomore Chris Soroka prepares to make a lay-up. Both played two-on-two basketball with senior Zach Hansen and sophomore Spencer Cartwright during an early dismissal.

photo by Felicia Hoover



## Intriguing Interview >>

Senior Alycia Waterman films an interview with eighth grader Makayla MaWhinney for health presentations. "The goal of Best Buddies is to make students aware that (special education students) are people with disabilities, not disabled people," Waterman said.

photo by Felicia Hoover



## << Prepare to Frolic

Sophomore Kelsey Bowen replaces paperwork for the Iowa Friendship Frolic in her envelope. "In order to go to the Friendship Frolic you had to raise money," Bowen said, "but I had just raised money for the cookie dough fundraiser, so I decided not to go."



photo by Leah Kron



# Interviews create a new Vision

Organization attains objective by appearing on announcements and in health classes

The moment senior Zach Hansen had been excited about all week had finally arrived. He sat in front of the camera which was aimed straight at him and sophomore Chris Soroka. There he patiently waited to answer the first of many questions so that he could begin his television career.

The organization continually tried to ponder up ideas that would help spread disability awareness. During one meeting a plan was drawn up to do just that. This scheme was to have a special education student and his buddy go on the announcements and answer questions written by Best Buddies' sponsor Brigid Townsend. The questions were then reviewed by president junior Caitlin Farrell. The two practiced the questions with Hansen and Soroka to decide what questions would be the best to ask.

"Zach had been telling people about it a week before it aired, so he was pretty pumped," Farrell said. "He said he was going to be famous because he was on TV."

Video production student junior Katelyn Ingersoll interviewed the

two on tape, which was then aired on the student announcements. The interview detailed what the organization wanted students to know about kids with disabilities and advocated general disability awareness. Some of the questions asked what Hansen liked about school and what he wanted people to know about his disability.

"It went well and the point got through to some people," Soroka said. "The point was that (special education) students aren't so different and (students) don't need to be afraid to talk to them or say hello to them in the hallways."

After the first interview was presented to the student body, and had the success the group had hoped for, they decided to do more interviews. The desire was to compile these interviews and present them in health teacher Jackie Sapp's classes on May 2.

"I think it was an awesome avenue to get the word out, a great collaboration of efforts," Townsend said. "The product was better than I expected." *spread by Felicia Hoover*



“On early dismissal days we had pizza, played a bunch of games together, and got a chance to know people outside of school.”  
-Jeremy Johnson '07

## Candy Calculuations

Upon arriving at the Halloween party, junior Jacie Blunt estimates the amount of candy in a holiday jar. Hoover High School hosted the party for chapters in the Des Moines area.



photo by Felicia Hoover

photo by Felicia Hoover

photo by Felicia Hoover

## « Pumpkin Painting

After senior Molly Gehm selects the color of choice, senior Kathryn Huen dunks a brush into the chosen paint. "Painting pumpkins was a neat way to bring a fun, competitive element into the party," Huen said, "and it allowed chapters from around the area to bond."

## « Freeze Frame

Waiting in anticipation, sophomore Spencer Cartwright remains frozen and intently listening for the phrase "green light." The group had decided to play red light, green light during a game day.





# secret tidings of best buddies from the members



photo by Felicia Hoover

## ≈Cookie Prepping

With a smashed tube in grip, senior Jasmine Riley carefully frosts a cookie. "My buddy is Andrew Waldschmitt. We play video games, and basically just blow each other up in Halo 2 or Star Wars Battle Front 2," junior Josh Sprinkle said.

## Officer Meeting≈

Gathered around sponsor Susan McCravy's table, president junior Caitlin Farrell and McCravy study information about upcoming events. "(My buddy) Spencer Cartwright and I go golfing, bowling, and play basketball at my house," junior Zach Larimer said.



photo by Leah Kron



## ≈Concert

Holding her hands high senior Lauren Mackey dances to the live band performing at the party. "(Big group gatherings) are a time to get together and see what everyone is doing," junior Derek Wright said.



photo by Felicia Hoover

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photo by Matthew Courtney

Peparing for her turn, junior Kayla Birmingham watches the other bowlers at regionals. "We went there, we knew what our goal was," Birmingham said, "which was to go to state, and we did what we had to do to accomplish it."



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Varsity Girls		Varsity Boys	
@Othman	2446-2761	@Othman	2327-2041
Marshalltown	2446-2258	Marshalltown	2327-2536
Dowling	2443-1998	Dowling	2602-2294
@Newton	2204-2304	@Newton	2242-2009
SE Polk	2204-1995	SE Polk	2242-2780
@Urbancare	2335-2493	@Urbancare	2635-2668
SE Polk	2499-1966	SE Polk	2589-2750
Antony	2499-2181	Antony	2589-2966
Indianola	2499-2242	Indianola	2589-2742
Indianola	2499-2190	Indianola	2464-2767
@Dowling	2361-1990	@Dowling	2608-2841
SE Polk	2325-1942	SE Polk	2708-2885
Urbancare	2422-2037	Urbancare	2459-2548
@Antony	2498-2244	@Antony	2654-2608
Othman	2406-2142	Othman	2947-2946
Perry	2527-1908		
Boys Sub-State		Seventh	
Girls Regionals		Stinson	
Girls State		Thra	

Scores listed Johnston-Ooponent



photo by Erin Funk

Brining the ball back, senior Austin Denny prepares to thrust his ball down the lane. "(My arm) kinda feels natural," Denny said. "It doesn't feel like I'm putting it that high."



photo by Erin Funk

After recovering from an inflamed tendon in her wrist, senior Krista Bowers practices extra hard so she can get back on track. Bowers received the injury by throwing the ball incorrectly during practice.



photo by Erin Funk

Checking the screen, junior Chris Wilkinson and sophomore Matt Goodhue go over their try-out scores. "(We) try to figure out our averages to compare to others so we could know our ranks," Wilkinson said.



photo by Matthew Courtney

Picking up her ball, sophomore Erin Funk gets ready to bowl. The JV girls' team won their meet by scoring over 500 more pins than the opposing team with a final score of 1718 pins to 1208 pins.



photo by Matthew Courtney

Senior Dan Haight waits for the pins to clear while he concentrates on his next throw. Freshman Jordan Thompson observed beside him as he waited for his turn to bowl.

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# Rufus rallies for a championship

## Cheerleaders adopt an unlikely mascot

Uniforms, pom-poms and random garments lay strewn about the room, the mark of ownership endowed by the cheerleading squad. However, one item stood apart from the mass of dishevelment, one small blight in the mass of pristine and somewhat girly objects dispersed throughout the room. A rat—huge, gray and rubbery, sat upright, adorned in a miniature cheerleading outfit.

Rufus, the rat, became the mascot of the cheerleaders. "We took him to all of our games," junior Cicely Gordon said. "He even had his own uniform." Many of the girls had become somewhat attached to the rat, and he became a very important part of the cheerleaders' season.

The varsity cheerleaders adopted the foot-long rodent when they came across him at junior Jordain Skarphol's house. They dressed him up in doll costumes and made sure that he was taken care of at all times. "When Jordain went out of town, though, (senior) Taylor (Gowey) babysat him for the weekend," Gordon said.

The cheerleaders took Rufus to their state

competition, dressed in his usual cheerleading attire. "Even though he's a guy, we wanted him to have his own uniform," Gowey said. Rufus motivated the squad and helped them to exceed their expectations.

The squad claimed that Rufus was the reason for them winning state, but it was evident that the extra practices during the summer didn't hurt either. "Usually, we don't start practicing until the school year starts," Gowey said. "But this year, we started practicing right after camp. We practiced once a week during the summer."

According to coach Heidi Collins, these extra practices caused her to feel much more confident about the team at state. "I was not nearly as nervous," Collins said. "I knew that the girls had done all they could to prepare for the competition.

It was much more relaxing going into state knowing that there was nothing else that we could have done to get ready for it."

Everybody on the squad wanted to do well, and they were all ready to put in the extra effort. "We were so successful because everybody had a common goal," Gordon said. "It is so much easier because everybody wanted to be there and wanted to win." *Spread by Leah Kron and Cory Gagne*

“This year was such a good year for the varsity cheerleaders. We had so much fun, we won state, we all got along and most importantly we worked really well as a team.”

-Linasey Liesling '09



Members of the varsity football squad pose with their mascot, Rufus, during a football game in October. "We say that (Rufus) is the reason we won state," junior Cicely Gordon said.



photo by Kiley Dewhurst

Pounding on the mat to encourage the wrestlers, junior Paula Cruzen cheers at a home wrestling meet in December. "Wrestling cheerleading is kind of a break after football season," Cruzen said, "but it's still just as fun."



# fly

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



Hoisted into the air, senior Ashley Bedord holds her heel stretch at the Iowa State Cheerleading Championships in November. The squad took home the first place cheer/dance trophy in the 4A division.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Junior Jordain Skarphol claps from the sidelines at a football game. Some landmark events of the football season for Skarphol were TP-ing the football players' houses for homecoming and teaching the elementary students cheers.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Basketball cheerleading captain, senior Alycia Watrous, performs a crowd favorite at a basketball game in December. The cheer 'Oh Yeah' was popular among students and cheerleaders alike.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Junior Kate Dickey gazes into the crowd while cheering at a football game in September. "Cheering football was an awesome experience," Dickey said. "The friends I made, all the activities we did, and winning state will be a life-long memory."

1421 SE Cortina Dr.  
Ankeny  
515-314-0251

## Iowa Cheerleading State Championships

Cheer/Dance	1st
Stunt Group 2	3rd
Stunt Group 1	5th



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Performing a balancing act, sophomores Haley McDonald, Nikki Feaster, and Cali Kness lift fellow sophomore cheerleader, Molli Kipp. "Cheerleading takes a ton of hard work and practice," McDonald said. "We all have to work as a team and get along."



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Receiving support from the squad, senior Lydia Givens prepares to fly at a home football game. The girls were comfortable with performing stunts, as their stunt groups placed third and fifth at the state competition.

# iowa all stars



# Dancing in the land of Disney

## Florida beckons team members following a camp competition

As the marching band banged, stepped and played their way to glory, junior Katie Norris awaited her chance to saunter onto the field of the Capital One Bowl in Orlando, Florida, prepared to make a grab for grandeur.

"With dance, it's so hard to feel like you're getting something out of it, even harder for others, like my parents, to see," Norris said. "Performing (at the Capital One Bowl) let me and everyone else see what I was working for."

The opportunity for Norris and other dance team members to make the jaunt to Florida arose from a camp set up by coach Christy Christensen, MA, a dance company originating from Texas, traveled to Summit Middle School in order to school the varsity dancers in the ways of movement, teaching them multiple pieces of choreography.

While mastering the moves required of each routine, the MA staff prowled about the camp, on the lookout for the most intense, most improved, most spirited dancer. Once spotted, these ladies received a ribbon of excellence, their invite to perform at the Capitol One Bowl on New Year's Day. Ten of the eleven members of the dance team received the honor of being asked, but only three decided to make the journey: Norris and seniors Rachel Bassell and Emily Hurm.

Four days before the performance, the trio drove to Kansas City, Missouri, where they proceeded to board the plane that carried them to their ultimate destination: sunny Orlando. On their first full day in

the land of the Everglades and citrus fruit, the troupe was given a pass to any one of the Disney World parks. Instantly, they selected the Magic Kingdom and began a search for the Disney Princesses.

"Hands down, getting pictures taken with the Princesses was the best part of the trip," said Bassell. "I always wanted to meet Belle and after 45 minutes of waiting, I got it."

The next two days were dedicated to practice, eight hours both days allotted to whip the group consisting of dancers, cheerleaders, twirlers and drum majors from 48 states into bowl-shape. The Capitol One Bowl had what they refer to as "America's Best Halftime show!™," but Bassell, Hurm and Norris refused to be unnerved by the challenge. Finally, on New Year's Day, the time arrived. The threesome ran onto the field.

"I just focused on my emotions," Norris said. "The crowd wouldn't be able to see little smiles. Here (at school) no one gets excited when we dance, but there it was HUGE. The crowd cheered like crazy! I was so excited and amazed." *Spread by Megan Susanne Browning*

“For our second dance, we had to blow up beach balls and put on sunglasses. Suprisingly enough, I actually got mine blown up in time, unlike all the practices.”

-Emily Hurm '07

Senior Tana Friesth pauses during her solo performance at the spring show. Friesth showed off her talents at the Creighton dance team tryouts April 13-15 and made the team.

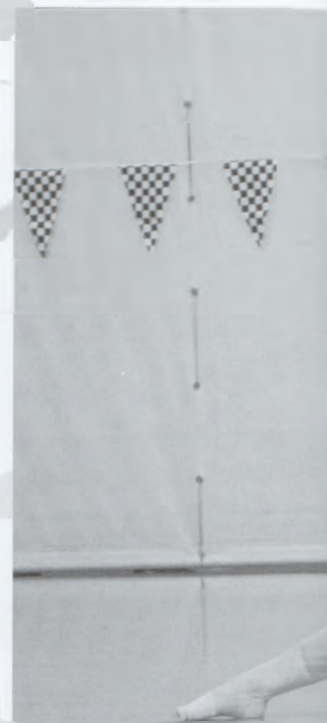
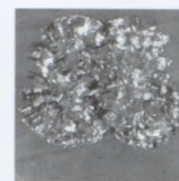


photo by Katie Norris

Junior varsity dancers strut their stuff during halftime of a boys' basketball game. "I wasn't really big on our hair (for this performance)," sophomore Amanda Gabbert said. "It felt like a bad '80s flashback."



Johnston Dance Team Clinics	
Weekly Schedule	
Monday - 4:00-6:00	Level 1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/10/11/12/13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100
Tuesday - 7:00-9:00	Level 1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/10/11/12/13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100
Wednesday - 5:00-7:00	Level 1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/10/11/12/13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100
Thursday - 7:00-9:00	Level 1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/10/11/12/13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100
Friday - 4:00-6:00	Level 1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/10/11/12/13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100
Saturday - 9:00-11:00	Level 1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/10/11/12/13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100
Sunday - 10:00-12:00	Level 1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/10/11/12/13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100



# Spin

photo by Felicia Hoover



Junior Audrey Henning holds her pose during a practice intended to prepare the team for state competition. The dance team took home Division One ratings, the highest level awarded, in both the jazz and pom competitions.

photo by Katie Norris



photo by Felicia Hoover

Eighth grader and JV team captain Talyor Coakley arches her back during JV's performance at the spring show. Senior Tana Friesth, juniors Audry Henning and Courtney Coakley as well as freshman Taylor Coakley also had solos.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Examining her pink state costume intently, junior Bethany Christenson hopes this costume evokes happier sentiments than the pleather costume she received earlier that evening. The varsity team ordered two costumes specifically for state.



photo by Felicia Hoover

Junior Alyssa Buckley sits during the team performance portion of the spring show. The show featured group performances by JV and varsity dance as well as the clinic attendees and individual performances by several team members.



State Competition:  
Pom: Division One Rating  
Jazz: Division One Rating

Iowa State Dance and Drill Team Association:  
State Champions Large Group

Iowa State Dance and Drill Team Association  
Solo Contest Division One Ratings:  
Tara Friesth  
Audrey Henning  
Courtney Coakley

All-Iowa Dance and Drill Team:  
Emily Hurm  
Rachel Bassell  
Tara Friesth

Team Distinguished Academic Award



photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Megan Browning

Intent on avoiding potential injuries, junior Jessica Gambrel stretches prior to practicing for the state competition. Gambrel helped the team receive Division One ratings in both pom and jazz.

Junior, dance captain Courtney Coakley demonstrates how to roll in a rhythmic fashion to fourth through seventh graders at the clinic the team hosted. Coakley received a Division One rating for her solo at the Iowa State Dance and Drill Team Association Solo Contest.

# Blood, Sweat, and Tears

## Capitals and Oak Leafs face off in a battle as rivalries surface

The arena was packed to capacity- more than capacity, in fact. The crowd was roaring in four times the numbers present at a typical hockey match. This wasn't just any game. This was the game. This was the culmination of a nine year-old rivalry, stewing since the Capitals had branched into two competing teams in 1998: the Oak Leafs and the Capitals. The two teams faced off once again in the state semifinals in front of a screaming crowd of approximately 2,500 fans.

Preparation for any game is tough but, according to the players the pressure is on the night before the face off against their rival team. "There's a lot more focus at practice before [the games]," senior Josh Kintz of the Des Moines Oak Leafs said. "You're more nervous because there's lots of people."

The rivalry, though long-standing, had been bittersweet. Due to the fact that the two teams were not split until the players arrived at the high school level, many members of the opposing teams had spent their fledgling years playing side-by-side, oftentimes as close comrades.

Regardless of friendships or camaraderie,

“Its a weird rivalry because we are all good friends off the ice. Its different playing against your best friend.”

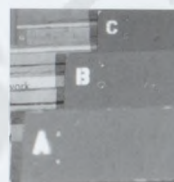
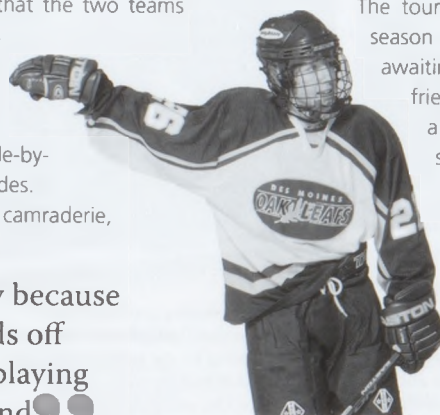
Josh Kintz '07

the two teams rekindled their competitive bent when they faced off at the state semifinals. The first game ended white-knuckle as the 0-0 game culminated in a shootout. The second game's overtime broke with a 4-3 Oak Leaf victory. The victory, triumphant for some, was a crushing blow for some players whose high school careers burnt out in defeat. "Your senior year was done and you were done playing. It was a bad way to go out," senior Scott Byrd, of the Capitals said.

Though the defeat of one team was inevitable, the game resulted in little ill will by the Capitals towards the Oak Leafs players. "Usually we go hang out with the guys from the other teams. You have a good laugh about the games," Byrd said.

The Oak Leafs finished the tournament seeded first in the state, while the Capitals finished third.

The tournament ended for another season but the teams went on awaiting the next year when friendships are put on hold as a means of taking home the state championship. *spread by Nikki Ward*



Junior Scott Rouse, and sophomores Eric Walter, and Ben Hjelmaas cluster in front of the goal protecting goal tender, junior Michael Lund following an attack on net. The group was successful in keeping opposing team, Dowling, from scoring.



photo provided by Deena Byrd

Junior Michael Lunn sits back on his haunches as he makes a daring save. Lunn goaltended for team purple and has played hockey for



# slapshot

photo provided by Dave Walter



Watching his shot, senior Troy Neilson throws the puck along the boards. This was the first year Johnston had teams bearing the fiery J on the front of their purple and gold jerseys.

photo provided by Dave Walter



photo provided by Dave Walter

Looking down the ice, sophomore Marc Theis awaits a pass from his teammate. Team Purple played in the National Conference along with Dowling, Ankeny, Valley, and Waukee.



photo provided by Deena Byrd

Sophomore Matt Temple concentrates on his stick handling as he moves down the ice. Temple played in the Des Moines Youth Hockey High School League with teams from other high schools in the metro area.

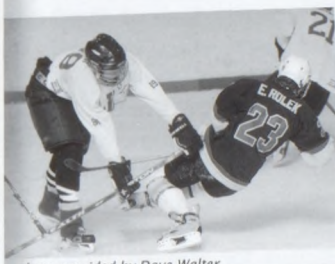


photo provided by Dave Walter

Senior Tommy Stroud shoves his Waukee opponent Eric Rolek to the ice during a playoff game. The Gold team upset Lincoln to continue but fell short in a game against Dowling to advance into the championship.

# Team Schedule

## Johnston Purple

10/29 v. Valley Orange  
11/05 v. Urbandale  
11/12 v. Valley Black  
11/19 v. Lincoln/Roosevelt  
11/27 v. Dowling Maroon  
12/03 v. Johnston Gold  
12/10 v. Anteny  
12/17 v. Waukee  
1/4 v. Dowling White  
1/21 v. Valley Orange  
1/22 v. Urbandale  
1/28 v. Valley Black  
2/05 v. Lincoln/Roosevelt  
2/11 v. Johnston Gold  
2/18 v. Anteny  
2/19 v. Waukee  
2/25 v. Dowling Maroon  
3/04 v. Dowling White

## Johnston Gold

10/29 v. Dowling White  
11/05 v. Waukee  
11/12 v. Anteny  
11/19 v. Urbandale  
11/27 v. Valley Black  
12/03 v. Johnston Purple  
12/10 v. Lincoln/Roosevelt  
12/17 v. Valley Orange  
1/4 v. Dowling Maroon  
1/21 v. Dowling White  
1/22 v. Waukee  
1/28 v. Anteny  
2/05 v. Urbandale  
2/11 v. Johnston Purple  
2/18 v. Lincoln/Roosevelt  
2/19 v. Valley Orange  
2/25 v. Valley Black  
3/04 v. Dowling Maroon



photo provided by Dave Walter



photo provided by Deena Byrd

Carefully drawing the puck into his pads, senior Kevin Christopher makes a quick save against Waukee. Christopher played for the gold team after the league had to split into two teams due to an increase in participants.

Aware of his surroundings, sophomore Bryce Johnson looks to pass the puck across the ice into the opponent's zone. Johnson played for the Capitals throughout high school in addition to many years playing for a travel team out of Des Moines.

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## DIVERSIFIED FINANCIAL GROUP

Scott T. Dewhurst, CLU

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5245 NW Beaver Drive

Johnston, IA

331-1922

# Orlando's Auto Service

## Smile and shake »

Congratulating senior Grace Meiners, principal Bruce Hukee shakes her hand as he gives her an officer pin. The pin symbolized Meiners leadership and achievements by acting as secretary for NHS.

photo by Erin Funk



Smiling while snapping a shot with friends, juniors Leslie Ware, Cory Gagne, Brianna Stone, Lauren Lund, and Julia Steggerda got inducted into the National Honor Society. After the ceremony parents took pictures with their kids and chatted with other families.

## Group picture »

photo by Erin Funk



## « Signing in

Junior Gabby Warrick signs her name on the list of new members, after getting her certificate from principal Bruce Hukee at the induction ceremony. The ceremony at the end of the year, marks the beginning for the new members of NHS.



photo by Erin Funk

# more than just flowers

NHS does much more than sell carnations for Homecoming week and Valentine's Day

As the blessed Homecoming week neared, students scrambled to find dollars to buy carnations for their sweethearts. The members of NHS are the ones that go around and sell these carnations, but as far as the average student knows, that's all they do.

Jacki Prehm, the teacher sponsor of NHS, believes that many of the students aren't aware of NHS because almost all of their activities are done outside of school. "I see the student body viewing NHS (as not being active in JHS) because it tends to be a behind the scenes organization," Prehm said. "Besides the carnation sales, most of the fundraisers and services projects are done out in the community rather than school."

Along with selling carnations, NHS members do a lot in the community. Each of the 6 board members are expected to complete a service project. A couple of these projects included stuffing envelopes for different organizations, organized a food drive in the fall, and helped raise money for Dollars for Scholars through a phone-a-thon.

Senior Abby Davis, president of NHS, said, "Each member is in charge of a project. They pick what they want to do and it's a way to get involved and show leadership." Davis helped make

NHS more visible in the school by putting milk cartons in classrooms for her service project, which was Coins for Campers. She placed a carton in classrooms with a slip of paper explaining what it was for. This organization raises "coins" for kids who have cancer.

Senior Conner Elmitt hopes that in the future NHS expands within JHS. "As it stands right now, you get a certificate and it looks good on a college application," Elmitt said. "The students need to have the shift in mind, it's something they have to do."

NHS took that step for their future plans by organizing more events within the school. "(In the future), one of the focuses of NHS will be to organize and plan the November Career Fair that will be held for all students in the high school," Prehm said. "This may help the student body

put a few more names and faces with the NHS organization." This, in the shadows, organization was slowly making it's way to becoming more visible within JHS.

*spread by Emily Roeser and Erin Funk*



“In NHS I had to do different volunteer programs, which I didn't expect at all, but it turned out to be kinda fun, like calling a bunch of people for phone-a-thon.”

*-Amanda Lower '07*



## Posing for the Parents

Juniors Ryan McCauley and Alex Swanson pose for a picture to remember their induction into NHS. After the induction ceremony parents and students ate cookies in the commons. ≈



photo by Erin Funk

photo by Erin Funk

photo by Erin Funk

# The Leaders of NHS



photo by Erin Funk

## ≈ President

The President of NHS, senior Abby Davis speaks to the new juniors. Davis assumed roles like organizing and arranging meetings. "It was great having Abby as president for this year she brought such a fun and positive attitude to our group," senior member Brianna Upton said.

## VP of History ≈

As Vice President of History senior Kelsey Hyde works on the NHS scrapbook.

Hyde included pictures of service projects, the board members, and senior photos. "Kelsey Hyde is a very motivated and responsible girl and I admire her perseverance in everything she does," senior Juila Zhang said.



photo by Grace Meiners

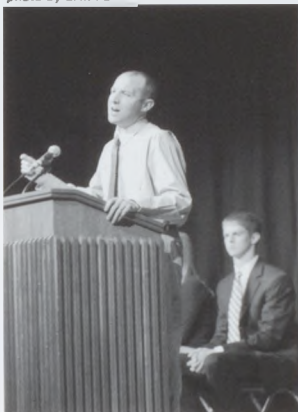
## « Looking at the past

Junior Jenna Wilson admires the past scrapbooks, while drinking some lemonade at the reception after the induction ceremony. Each year the National Honor Society puts together a scrapbook to show what was done.



## « Words from the wise

History and Psychology teacher Jason Jauron speaks about being a teacher, and congratulates the students on being inducted into the National Honor Society. Jauron was the guest speaker for the ceremony.



## ≈ Treasure

Senior Scott Cronin receives his officer pin and a hand shake from principal Bruce Hukee, during the induction ceremony. Cronin was the treasurer for NHS. "Scott was a great treasure, he did his job well and was a positive person on our council," Jennifer Oden said.



Photo by Erin Funk

little's fitness



# What Student Council does behind the scenes

## Meetings ≈

Juniors Mandy McWherter and Heath Verhasselt listen to senior Connor Elmitt talk about next year's office positions.

"The meetings are really early, but you get to help people, and hang out with other student council members," sophomore Andrew Selberg said.



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein



photo by Bethany Christenson

## ≈ Intramurals

Guarding the ball, senior Jay Quick covers the ball in the three-on-three tournament. "I love intramurals because they get everyone involved," Michael Lunn said. "People who are in sports can do them, without worrying about making varsity."

## Blood Drives ≈

While munching on a Nutter Butter, senior Tyler Shannon gives snacks to those who just gave blood. "I got to miss one of my classes to hand out cookies and drinks to kids who just had their blood drawn," sophomore Amy Lovejoy said.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

## ≈ Supporting the Trainer

Chairwoman of the Mark Pierson Committee junior Cory Gagne sets out treats for the "Muffins for Mark" bake sale. "We got a great response," Gagne said. "I was really nervous because I wasn't sure what people would think of a bake sale."



photo by Kiley Dewhurst

## Folding Before the Storm >>

Sorting out old volleyball jerseys, student body vice president, senior Taylor Gowey lays out the uniforms. "Everything we wanted to sell was gone within five minutes," Gowey said. "We had a large number of students who bought the clothing, and we were very happy with the turnout."



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

## Hair on End >>

Senior Brian Smith catches the basketball at one of the intramurals. The intramurals were three-on-three, and Smith was wearing his jersey from his church basketball league, Faith + One.



photo by Bethany Christenson



# Muffins for Mark

Student Council creates committee to aid trainer, friend

Dozens of muffins and other baked goods were passed out to students and teachers at the "Muffins for Mark" bake sale held by student council, as athletic trainer Mark Pierson and his family received support from the majority of the student body, whether they knew him or not. Pierson was known by many students, even if they were not in sports. When he was hospitalized in early 2007, student council took action.

Pierson suffered from a heart attack in early 2007, which caused the irregular heartbeat and rhythm problem for which he was placed in intensive care. According to athletic director Gary Ross, doctors found a blockage of a major artery in Pierson's neck. He underwent a double bypass surgery on April 17 after spending time in rehab to regain his strength from his previous hospitalization.

"Student council really wanted to represent the student body in doing what we could for Mark and his family," head of the Mark Committee junior Cory Gagne said. "I have heard so much about him from my friends who have been affected by him, and I wanted to represent them in helping him also."

The committee was designed to organize different fundraisers, and all of the profits went to the Pierson family. One of the fundraisers created was a bake sale. According to Gagne, student council had never done a bake sale before, so not only was it fun for customers who

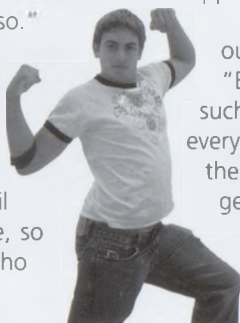
got to eat the muffins and other baked goods, it was also fun for the committee because it was something new.

People who bought baked goods from the sale had many different reasons for donating to the committee. "I heard Mark was having a lot of medical problems and that his family was in a really tough situation," junior Julia Steggerda said, "so I bought a muffin because it goes to the cause to help them out."

The committee was also trying to get other teams and organizations involved in helping out Pierson and his family. "We want to get sports teams to sponsor different bake sales to represent themselves," committee member junior Jenny Pray said. "Student council would handle all of the organizing, while the teams would bring the food."

A bake sale was not the only fundraiser designed to help out the athletic trainer. "We've passed the hat around to raise money for the Pierson family in third period classes and at basketball games," chemistry teacher Chris Beguhn said. "It gave students the opportunity to donate during class."

The Mark Committee tried to help out Pierson's family to its best ability. "Because [Mark's] hospital bills were such a huge expense, we want to do everything in our power to support them," Pray said. "We are trying to get the student body interested, and hopefully we will. It's a good incentive." *spread by Olivia Shiefelbein and Caitlin Larkin*



“I gave blood for the first time in the fall. There was a strong need for blood, and knowing that I helped someone feels good.”  
-Kyle Thomann '07

photo by Olivia Schiefelbein



## « Old School

Picking out jerseys for the throwback game, seniors Anne Rubbelke and Erica Weirich decide between shorts and shirts. The students wore the old uniforms to the home game against Urbandale on Jan. 26.

## ≈ And Now...

Activities director, junior Thomas Lashier talks in front of the student body at the homecoming pep assembly. Throughout the year Lashier organized intramurals and keep the school informed on activities.

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



## Low Blood Sugar »

After getting her blood drawn, junior Alex Swanson sips on a Pepsi.

"I was really scared but once they stuck the needle in it wasn't that bad," Swanson said. "I just started talking to people at other tables."

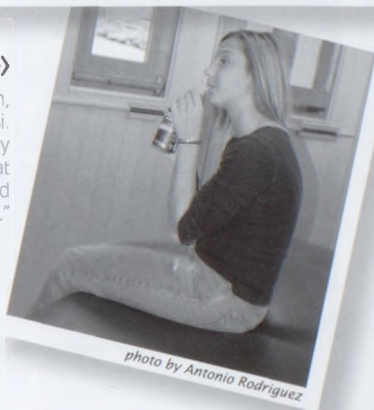


photo by Antonio Rodriguez





# Soldiering through troubled shoulders

## Wrestlers nurse injuries as they watch from the sidelines

Glancing around the mats at 3:30 during practice, one would notice many boys wrestling with only one arm. Looking closer still, tape became visible as five boys tried anything and everything to nurse their shoulders back to health. Coach Brian Reece sought an explanation to the shoulder injuries within his teaching career. "I teach probability and even if something is not likely to happen it still can happen," coach Reece said. Along with the rest of the coaching staff, coach Reece looked over practices and routines but found that the injuries were occurring in meets and no change in their daily rituals would be a preventative measure.

"My injury happened at a wrestling meet against Roosevelt," senior Eric Reese said. "There was downward pressure on (my shoulder.)" The damage to Reese's shoulder along with other teammates threw a wrench in the goals for their season. The injuries prevented them from competing in a majority of the regular season. "I wanted 100 wins but I didn't reach that," senior Kyle McDowell said. Due to his injury, McDowell was unable to wrestle in 100 matches, making it impossible to accomplish his goal.

In addition to his 100-win goal, McDowell wanted to finish his senior year claiming the state champion title. Although he qualified, he did not wrestle at state. With careful consideration, McDowell and his family made the decision to forgo state, and McDowell attended Wells Fargo simply as a spectator for the second year in a row. "It sucked," McDowell said.

The difficulty of watching from the sidelines was shared by all. The heartbreak was worse for those seniors

unable to participate in their final home meet. "Senior night was extremely hard to watch," Eric Reese said. "Knowing my goals wouldn't be met because I had to win 35 matches really bummed me out."

Even the managers of the team felt the impact. "It was always hard to see the injured wrestlers on the sidelines just watching," junior Ciera Lundgren said. "I knew they wanted to wrestle and I felt bad for them, especially the seniors."

Plagued by shoulder injuries, the team found themselves at a loss, but according to coach Reece the athletes benefitted from their injuries in the long run. "It forced (the boys) to look at new wrestling techniques," coach Reece said. "Once they were able to come back, even if their shoulder wasn't a hundred percent, it's better than not having it. It really helped their confidence."

Without many key wrestlers there was a need for greater depth in the team as a whole. "With a lot of the varsity wrestlers out due to injuries, (junior varsity) wrestlers had to step up to the plate," Lundgren said. In addition to McDowell and Reese, sophomore Jonathan Nelson, junior Josh South, and senior Kyle Thomann struggled with injuries.

Despite the injuries, the team beat Ankeny to place second at districts and sent seven wrestlers to state. Fans witnessed the awards as three wrestlers (seniors Eric Reese, Adam Richards and Ricky Rodriguez accepted their medals.) *Spread by Kiley Dewhurst and Abby Weaver*

“The worst part (of wrestling) is morning practices and not being able to eat.”  
-Matt Dickerson '09

Working to keep Ankeny opponent, Casey Sledge, on the mat, freshman Alex Richards fights for a chance to go on to state. Richards won his match and joined his older brother, Adam, at state.

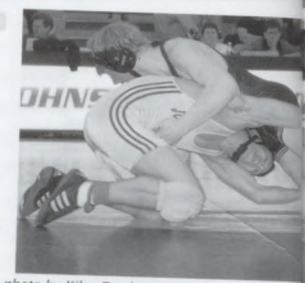


photo by Kiley Dewhurst

Junior Derek Riecks fights at senior night to win his match. Riecks and senior Todd Sexton, stepped up to fill in for senior Kyle McDowell, out with a shoulder injury for the majority of the season.

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# Escape

photo by Abby Weaver



Signifying that Adam Richards won his match, the referee raises Richards's arm at districts, which was held at Johnston. Richards went on to state where he placed seventh in the 130 weight class.



photo by Abby Weaver



photo by Abby Weaver

Overpowering Quentin Ring of Ames, senior Kyle McDowell wrestles his first match at districts. McDowell went on to win his next three matches and became district champion of the 145 weight division.



photo by Abby Weaver

Senior Eric Reese struggles to take senior opponent, Jake Harvey of Indianola, down. Reese went on to win his match and qualified for state, where he placed fourth in the 152 weight division.

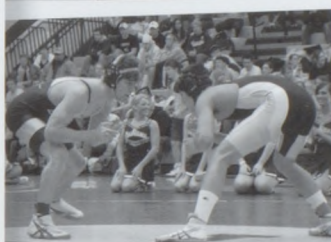


photo by Kiley Dewhurst

Focusing on penetration, senior Todd Sexton prepares to take a shot. Sexton wrestled senior Logan Edgington of Indianola in the 140 weight class.

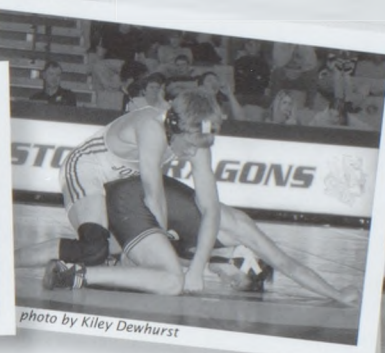


photo by Kiley Dewhurst

Sporting the team's special singlet, sophomore Josiah South wrestles at senior night. The wrestlers wore the gold singlets for senior night, and the final rounds of districts and state.

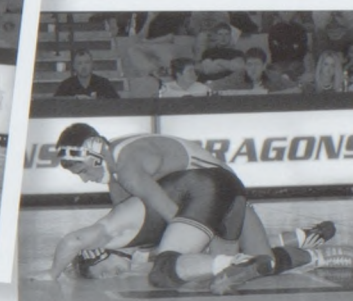


photo by Kiley Dewhurst

Firmly keeping his opponent down, senior Ricky Rodriguez battles Tyler Grask of Dowling. Rodriguez was one of five captains and was awarded the outstanding match award for his district competition against Brett Sams of Oskaloosa.

## Iowa Sleep Disorders Clinic

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spring

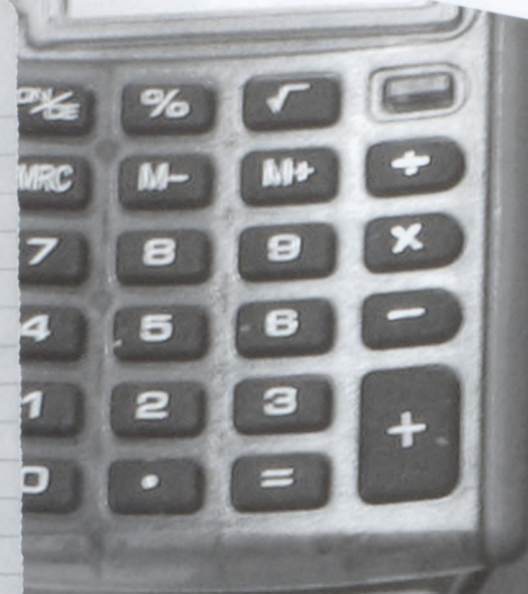
## Unpredictable Weather

spread by david zorn

Windy days and rainy nights put a damper on spring sports, cancelling practices and making it difficult for track runners to qualify for the Drake Relays, where junior Obsie Birru set a new school record in the 800 and 3000. A trip to Denver awarded our yearbook the coveted Pacemaker and kept senior Grace Meiners from attending the Hall of Fame dinner in her honor as one of three students of the year. In addition to Grace's absence seniors Scott Cronin and Emily Kuster, the remaining students of the year, missed the dinner due to a show choir trip to Branson where Innovation was named National Grand Champions. A whirlwind of security problems kept Jan Bjurstrom busy when a cap gun arrived on campus and a mysterious man was found roaming the roof. So much rain proved to be too much pressure for our leaky ceilings and water invaded classrooms and the library making navigation even harder as students filed around giant trash cans used to catch stray water. Copy by Kiley Dewhurst



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THE



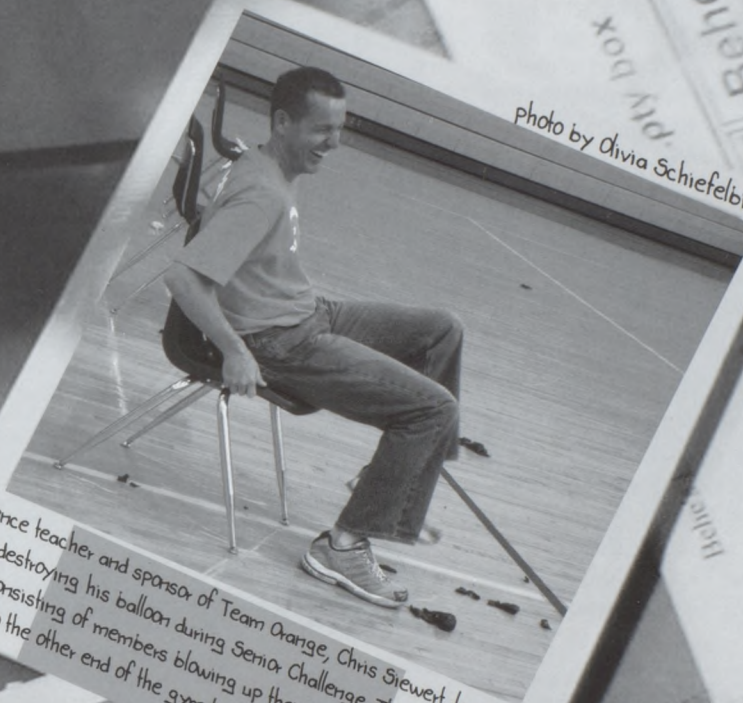


Photo by Olivia Schiefelbien

Science teacher and sponsor of Team Orange, Chris Siewert, laughs after destroying his balloon during Senior Challenge. The game was a relay consisting of members blowing up their own balloons and then racing to the other end of the gym to pop their newly made work.

Behr's Empty Box

Reviews and Critiques of Mitchell  
Behr's Book

Features





# LGBT Student Day yields success

[Johnston GSA informs legislators at the Capitol]

As a child, sophomore Brittany Deal never thought of homosexuality as odd. As a highschooler, Deal became active in securing rights for homosexual students. "I'm still questioning my sexuality, but I've always been an advocate," Deal said. "My dad grew up with a friend who was gay and I never thought it was wrong."

Deal and other members of the Gay-Straight Alliance decided to show their support of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students (LGBT) in Iowa by attending the Student Day at the Capitol March 7. The Student Day was the second one annually, according to Ryan Roerman of the Iowa Pride Network, a non-profit network dedicated to enhancing Gay-Straight Alliances in Iowa schools. "The first day at the Capitol was to educate lawmakers on the experiences LGBT and Allied students faced in high schools regarding homophobia," Roerman said. However, Deal and other members of the GSA were there for a different reason.

The students were advocating for a change in the Iowa Civil Rights code to include prevention against discrimination due to sexual orientation and gender identity.

Deal, junior Ben Schnurr, junior Chloe Coulture, and senior Josh Merritt met with Roerman and two other college students in order to prepare themselves. "We met at the Historical Building and they got us mentally prepared," Deal said. "They gave us a sheet with questions they thought we'd get asked and answers we should use instead of getting defensive." Deal felt that the preparation was helpful in her dealings with legislators.

With their new advice, the group was ready to convince their lawmakers of the necessity of the bill. Schnurr talked with a representative from Black Hawk County who wasn't receptive to the bill. "As a child," Schnurr said, "she was obese and since we focus mainly on LGBT issues, she didn't want special rights."

Both Roerman and Deal were pleased when the addition to the Civil Rights bill was passed. "I think having high school and college students speak to the issue of equality for all had an impact on the legislators and ultimately helped them vote the way that they did," Roerman said. *Spread by M. Grace Meiners*

“(The bill) gives me protection and not just LGBT students. Everyone deserves that protection.”  
-Ben Schnurr '08



photo by Brittany Deal



Senior Josh Merritt talks with other members of the Gay-Straight Alliance at the meeting prior to the LGBT Student Day at the Capitol. Merritt and four other students attended the event in order to persuade lawmakers of passing an addition to the Civil Rights bill.



Bowling coach Vickie Borich talks to students and parents about the season during their end of the year banquet. The banquet was held at Johnston Evangelical Free church.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

photo by Erin Funk

Senior Maggie Denison and junior Alyssa Buckley color while representing Johnston Dance during KidsFest. During the day the group performed a dance for the children.



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein



photo by Katie Norris

Sophomores Amanda Paschewitz, Colleen Shannon, and Tyler Waltz sign up for field trips during a weekly church meeting. The three were members of St. Mary's Church in Des Moines.



photo by Amanda Gabbert

In order to pass the time before classes commence, sophomores Cara Blackford and Nate McGinley play the game 31. Blackford was introduced to the game by her grandmother. "I've been playing cards since I was five," Blackford said, "so I can hold up my cards pretty well."

# march...



Junior Molly Larson and Maricelly Valencia brave the winds in order to exit the school after school was let out early due to snowstorms March 1. The students received their first snowday in three years the following day.



photo by Matthew Courtney

In an effort to attract sophomores, senior Sarah Timmons writes on a poster promoting Fencing Club during Sophomore Orientation. While telling students about the club she fielded some interesting questions. "People would ask 'Does it hurt' and 'Have you killed anyone?'" she said.



photo by Cory Gagne

Senior Kathryn Huen consults her judging partner during History Day. She and other students looked at projects made by sixth through eighth graders from the metro area. "It was pretty fun," Huen said. "We got to look at a lot of different projects."



photo by Sam Dearden

Junior Jake Highfill concentrates as he shaves junior Ryan Coffman's head. Their second period Chemistry class was raising money to donate for cystic fibrosis research and Coffman decided he would get a mohawk if the class raised \$40. "That one day I put up my hair for a mohawk was the most Beguhn's classes raised in one period," Coffman said.



photo by Sammy MacCormack

Senior Dan Haight awaits as author Sonny Brewer signs his book, *The Poet of Tolstoy Park*. Students were selected to listen to Brewer talk about his book and ask questions at the Johnston Public Library.



Seniors Alex Gons and David Zorn







photo by Sam Dearden

Pressed up against a wall, junior Ryan McCauley preps for the launch by pulling the giant slingshot as tight as possible. "I had never done it before, so it was fun to see how far you can shoot things," McCauley said. "We almost hit some cars."



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Flying through the air senior Kyle McDowell successfully returns the volley. McDowell played tennis with seniors Joe Harcharik and Matt Ogren after school.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Junior Tara Lappin watches as junior Brianna Stone ties the balloon off while they prepare the gym for the Coronation assembly. Not only were the Prom King and Queen announced but spring sports also received recognition.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

During lunch senior Tyler Shannon waits to retrieve his After Prom t-shirt, while the After Prom committee member scans the sheets for his name. The shirts were handed out the week of prom, so that students could sport the blue t-shirts at the After Prom festivities.

# April...



photo by Katie Norris

Using creativity freshman Leah Kacere and senior Sammy Johnson dance with a stick and don't lose touch with each other or the stick. The two had to accomplish this task for their class at Johnston Dance.



photo by Felicia Hoover

Sophomore Justin Knightinger films the Anavix concert at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. The Christain band put on a concert at the church and Knightinger was asked to film it.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

In spirit of the week and of pirate day teacher Alicia Rollison decked out in pirate attire as she practiced the fight song on her horn. A group of teachers picked up instruments and performed the fight song instead of the pep band at the coronation assembly.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

As a member of Junior-Senior Board, senior Brian Smith announces the nominees of the Prom Court. The Prom King and Queen were seniors Alex Guns and Hannah Wagner.

photo by Giorg Lundgren



At a show choir party, senior Hailie Zulaica and junior Madison Fiedler sing along with a karaoke machine. "(Junior) Stu Leahy started it off then we wrote singing 'My Humps'," Fiedler said.



Sophomore Jeremy Mullen





# Rain water Reeks havoc

[Puddles make a home at school due to downpour]

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



Junior Ben Schnurr watches as custodian Dan Golbuff cleans rain water off the hall floor outside of the library. During the heavy rain the school had leaks in the hall and classrooms.

After running into the school to avoid as much soggy as possible, senior Katie Albers grabbed her supplies and headed to math class. Upon opening the door she felt a rush of nausea followed by a sense of relief when told her class had been moved to a different room. "My first period class, (Rick) Brooks', smelled like dead bodies when we opened the door, so we had class down the hall," Albers said.

The water leaks in Brooks' room were emitted from the room directly above it, Spanish teacher Gerald Hollingsworth's room.

The week of intense rainfall proved difficult for the school to keep up with. The ceiling tiles in the hall outside of the library collapsed and a trash bin found itself a personal residence to catch leakage for that week. Classrooms that fell along the line of separation between the first and second stories started to leak, such as Brooks' and math teacher Steve Smith's classrooms.

The most noticeable rain induced dilemma was the library hall's damage and its dampness. "The rain in the library hall affected me because I go through that hallway often and it was crowded so it made me late to some of my classes," junior Liz Fuller said.

Not only did the rain cause

tardies, but it also distracted students while they were in the classes next to the leak. "I had a block class right next to (the succumbed ceiling tiles) and it kind of made me have to pee," junior Evan Stone said. "I also thought (the leaks) could have many good uses, such as washing things or holding wet T-shirt contests."

The danger of slipping as you rushed through crowded halls in an attempt to make it to class on time and the distractions evaporated with the end of the rain. However, the school still needed repairs to help avoid these issues in the future. "I think the school needs to be renovated," senior Krista Bowers said. "Because there are so many classrooms and places in the school that are falling apart."

In the end the school won the battle against the downpours, but better preparation could have helped it. "Just slap some duct tape on the school," Stone said. *spread by Felicia Kathleen Hoover.*

"Everytime I walked through the middle hallway where the ceiling tile crumpled and where the trash bucket lived, I had to walk really slow, so I didn't slip."

Megan Junge O?

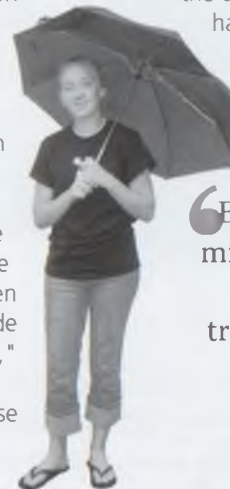






photo by Ciera Lundgren

Using his flame, junior Kory Plagge ignites sophomore Alexa Guessford's candle at the candle light ceremony next to sophomores Taylor Martz and Leslie Tosch. Students wore pink on the day of the candlelight to show support for the Cronin family.



photo by Ciera Lundgren

Lending her flame, junior Lindsey Tosch tips her candle to light fifth grader Mickayla Zulaica candle. The girls attended the candlelight organized by senior Hailie Zulaica in support of guidance counselor Vicki Cronin.



photo by Ciera Lundgren

Listening to stories about his mom, senior Scott Cronin stands with girlfriend junior Rachel Spurgin on May 2. Spurgin and Cronin were supporting Cronin's mom, guidance counselor Vicki Cronin after a heart attack.

Hooked up to a small machine senior Michael Wright lies patiently as his blood fills the bag for donation. The Blood Center of Iowa returned to the big gym foyer for the second time to accept blood donations from all willing participants.



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

photo by Leah Kron

# May...



photo by Matthew Courtney



photo by Emily Roeser



photo by Megan Kellogg

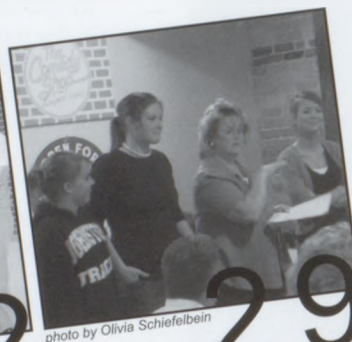


photo by Olivia Schiefelbein



Seniors Josh Kintz, Michael Carter, Cody VerHuel, Scott Byrd, and Logan Koch, all part of team USA, stick together to win a race during senior challenge. Each sponsor had to wrap an entire reel of Saran wrap around their team before the team could run to the half court line and return back to the baseline.



With parents Becky and Jeff Johnson and coaches Brian Lutter of Johnston and Mike Magistrelli of St. Ambrose, senior Jeremy Johnson signs with St. Ambrose to play football. The signing took place in the big gym foyer.

Showing off pillows displaying various team photos, dance team coach Christy Christensen and senior Rachel Bassell stand in front of parents and dance team members at the team banquet. Bassell danced with the team all four years of high school.

Balancing newspapers, senior David Zorn assists senior Alex Guns in transporting papers upstairs to the journalism lab. The Black and White staff used a little red wagon to move their monthly issue.

Accepting awards from golf coach Vicki Borich at the golf banquet sophomores Lesley Tosch, Erin Funk, and junior Lexi Evans look out over friends and family at Spaghetti Works. The girls were the only members of the JIV golf team to attend the dinner.



Seniors Sarah Froelich and Klay Queck



# Leave the keys, the car stays home

[Students tackle hills for Bike to Work Week]

photo by Cory Gagne



In the spotlight, junior Jenny Pray dances alongside Roosevelt senior Dora Novak, Winterset senior Lisa Barrick and Waukee junior Tia Feather to *One Heart Beat From Paradise*. The girls dramatic performance was about a car crash.

For one week in the month of May students flocked to school atop two wheels and donning the occasional helmet. National Bike to Work Week sparked interest among students and teachers alike, as it saved gas money and provided for a memorable experience. "(Senior) Grace Meiners told me that she was going to ride her bike to school for Bike to Work Week and I told her she was a nut job because we live all the way in Urbandale," senior Kelsey Hyde said. "I realized I was out of gas, like under the E, so I decided to join her."

Hyde and Meiners biked to school all five days and they picked up a few stragglers on the way. "On the second day (senior) Alex Guns joined us," Hyde said. "(Senior) Logan Keenan rode with us one morning but never returned." According to Hyde the group named themselves the Bike Gang, as a celebration of their union. They decorated their bikes with playing cards in their spokes for a noisy, yet memorable entrance to school on the final day of Bike to Work Week.

For sophomore Lindsay Timmons, riding her bike to school was merely a chance to

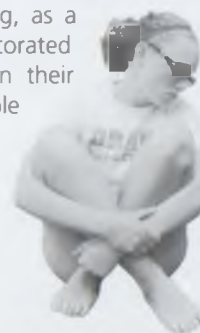
do something a little different and take part in the community fun. "I decided to bike to school because it was Bike to Work Week and I didn't have a job so (school) was the only other thing I could bike to," Timmons said.

All the hype to ride bikes brought with it stories of injury and pain. "Let's just say I was riding a little too fast and my front wheel got stuck in between the pavement and the grass and I flipped head first onto the grass with my bike falling on top of me," Timmons said

For others the pain was less falling off and more the actual ride. According to Guns riding his little sister's bike made for a very difficult adventure. "My little sister's bike was too small for my giant legs, so by the third day the bike was aptly named- The Punisher," Guns said. "Grace Meiners spared me and rode it the final day."

Through rain and shine Bike to Work Week brought many new stories and some good laughs. "On Tuesday it rained, but we rode through it, and walked the halls, with wet bikes and soaked butts," Guns said. *Spread by Kiley Dewhurst*

Junior Rachel Spurgin



“With school wrap- ping up we still had to finish the yearbook, we also had to find time to study for finals and finish projects.”  
-Olivia Schiefelbein 09





# Failed Enthusiasm

## Novel with philosophic base inspires little connection

When senior Larissa French received a letter from Sarah Wessling, her AP English teacher, informing her that the top-notch English skill awarded her the opportunity to represent the school at a genuine author reading, French jumped at the chance to meet Sonny Brewer, the writer of *The Poet of Tolstoy Park*. However, the elation was damped within seconds of opening the novel.

"At first, the whole situation just seemed so amazing," French said. "I'd get to read a book and actually ask all the questions I had about it to the man who wrote it. Then I realized I hated the book, its concept, and the general lack of plot."

According to Wessling, the Johnston Public Library offered the chance to partake in the Sony Brewer meet and greet, his way of paying homage to the Des Moines connection within his book. The English department then gathered and selected 50 students they thought would enjoy the interactive event, 40 of whom agreed and received copies of the man's novel, complements of the library. The students were expected to read the literary work and attend two sessions with Wessling prior to meeting Brewer, where they would receive additional information on the man and the premise behind *The Poet of Tolstoy Park*. The book focused on a man's philosophical and literal journey, spurred on by his looming death. He travels to a utopian society situated in Alabama, originally founded by Des Moines area natives.

"I think by having the students come in and learn about the author, the history and create questions, the students were more interested in hearing Brewer, more prepared for a 'conversation' with the man," Wessling said.

In the end, the additional time spent in the school was not the portion of the event students with which students had qualms; finishing the novel claimed that prize. Within the young adult audience, the book's philosophic base inspired more yawns than epiphanies.

"It was a snoozer. I mean, like crazy boring," sophomore Hannah Emmerson said. "From what I read, it was fairly insightful. However, that can get old really fast." *spread by Megan Susanne Browning*



photo by Kiley Dewhurst

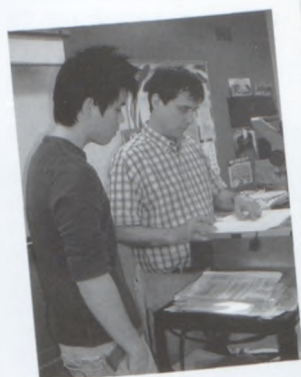
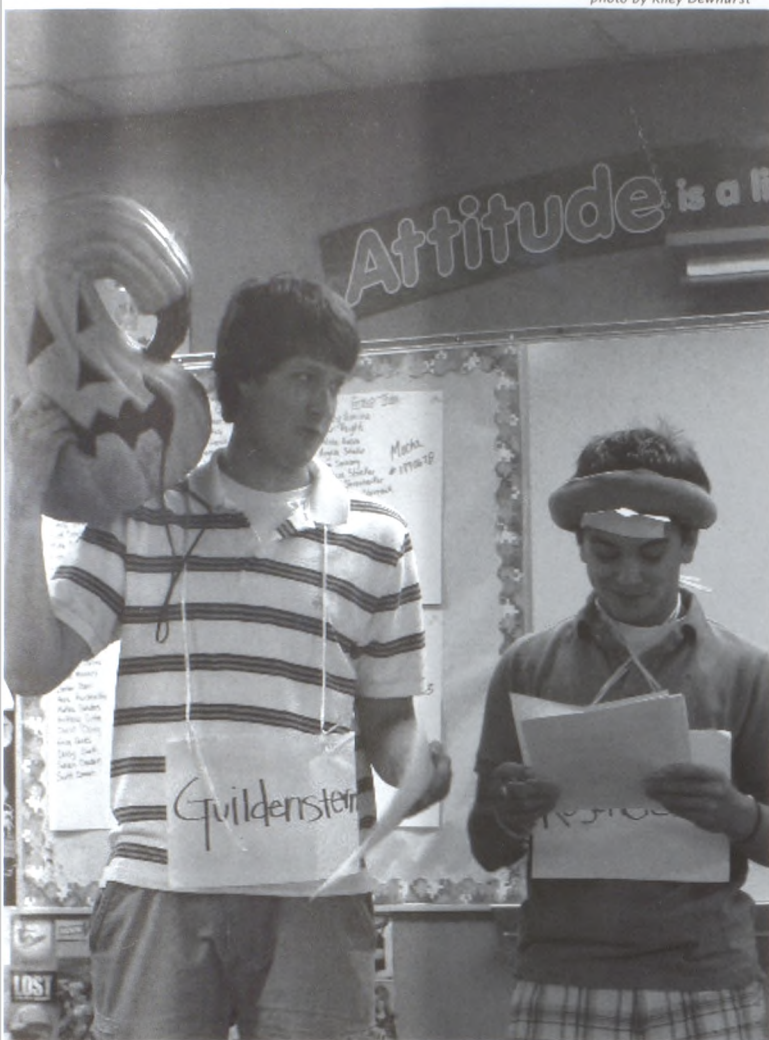


photo by Katie Norris

### Conversing on Shakespeare

Junior Phap Lam conferences with Schillerstrom about his Macbeth paper for World Literature. Students greatly appreciated the chance to interact with Schillerstrom, finding it easier to meet the expectations of the assignment.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Sammy McConaghey

### Tragic Acting Skills

Seniors Dan Haight and Sam Leahy portray Guildenstern and Rosencratz while performing a scene from *Hamlet*. Each group had to rewrite a portion of the play in order to depict a specific vision of *Hamlet*.

### Whom shall I address this to?

Sophomore Alan Nagel gives author Sonny Brewer his name for his personalized autograph. Brewer came to Iowa to pay homage to the Des Moines connection in his novel, *The Poet of Tolstoy Park*.

### Judge Journeys to Johnston

Judge Robert Hanson converses with Jackie Norris' government class. "I think he did a good job talking about a typical day in the life of a judge," Norris said. "I just saw him mentioned in the news as he will be the judge on the gay marriage case in Iowa."



# English



photo by Leah Kron

## Lakota Lessons

Senior Matt Burch lectures on the merits of the Lakota way of life during American Literature class. The project was in conjunction with reading *Black Elk Speaks* by John G. Neihardt.

photo by Felicia Hoover



## Perusing Poetry

Junior Ian White flips through a poetry compilation book in hopes of finding an inspirational piece for his Poetry Montage. "I think being able to make connections that are not necessarily obvious is a very important and useful skill in not only literary analysis, but in all parts of life," White said. "I enjoy finding those connections."

## Shine My Shoes, sir

Sophomores Chris Harney and Alfred Norte participate in the age old tradition of the "How To" speech. Students were to teach their classes a step-by-step process.



photo by Erin Funk

# Social Studies

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



## Presenting with Style

Seniors Emily Conn and Carly Hammer chat with their government class on some governmental function. Seniors were assigned different departments of the government to research.

“When state senator Larry Noble came to speak, he didn't really talk to us, just at us. Being condescended to is boring.”

Amanda Hatfield '07



photo by Nikki Ward

## Mayor About Town

Mayor of Johnston, Brian Lorenzo lectures on the world of local government to seniors. In lieu of reading the chapters covering local government, teachers felt hearing from the very people that make the government work was a more exciting opportunity.

# Physical Education



photo by Felicia Hoover

## Aiming for the Alley

Junior Rachel Binner makes an attempt at tennis during duo sports class.

Binner, a member of the JV girls' tennis team, enjoyed the opportunity for extra practice. "Even though tennis in PE is mostly ridiculous and fun, it was also extra practice," Binner said. "Every minute I played helped somewhat."

## Saving the Game

Sophomore Brandon Stanley punts the ball away from his team's goal following an inspired save during a soccer game in Brian Woody's team sports class. Thanks to his goalie efforts, his team won the game.



photo by Felicia Hoover

## Breaking Away

Senior Eric Mortens makes a run down the sideline during team sports gym class. Morten's team, sporting the red pennies, won by a large margin.



photo by Felicia Hoover







## Science



photo by Erin Funk

### Lifesize Genetics

Diligently making progress on her biology project, sophomore Chelsea Nelson applies glue to a paper ball, forming the next layer of a DNA molecule. "(The project) took a lot of work, about five hours, but it was worth (the time spent), it looked fantastic at the end" Nelson said.



photo by Sam Dearden



photo by Sam Dearden

### Unlocking Chemistry

In an AP chemistry lab, junior Alyssa Burcham handles a key that was recently submerged in a solution. "The copper in the solution made a layer of copper on the brass key and changed (the key's) color," Burcham said. "It was fun because it was a lab we chose to do rather than one we had to do."

### Writing It All Down

Junior Addie Iler takes notes during a chemistry lab in which the class set a hard-boiled egg at the opening of a pop bottle and use hot water to make the egg squeeze inside the bottle. The class had to be careful that the egg did not break during this process.

## Mathematics



photo by Sam Dearden

### Sorting Time

Crowding around the table, math teacher Rich Gradoville, junior Troy DuBay, sophomore Samantha Sweeney, and juniors Pat Shockey and Jessica Christensen attempt to figure out which pizza belongs to each student. The class had a pizza party in celebration of their strong efforts to raise money for children with cancer.

"I'm in pre-calc and I've never done a lot of the things we're doing so a lot of it's over my head. My friends are the same way though, so we try to help each other out."  
-Kasi Dickerson '09



photo by Sam Dearden

### Absorbed in Work

Junior Bret Beaderstadt concentrates as he works on his assignment for Algebra II. "I really enjoy learning about exponential and logarithmic equations; it's my favorite!" Beaderstadt said.

### Negative Reaction

Junior Zach Kendall glances over an Algebra I test he had received only moments before. "I didn't do well, (the material) was too hard," Kendall said. "I don't like math. It's one of my weaker areas."



photo by Sam Dearden



photo by Sam Dearden

# bahama bound

## Students get creative in efforts to finance way for educational vacation

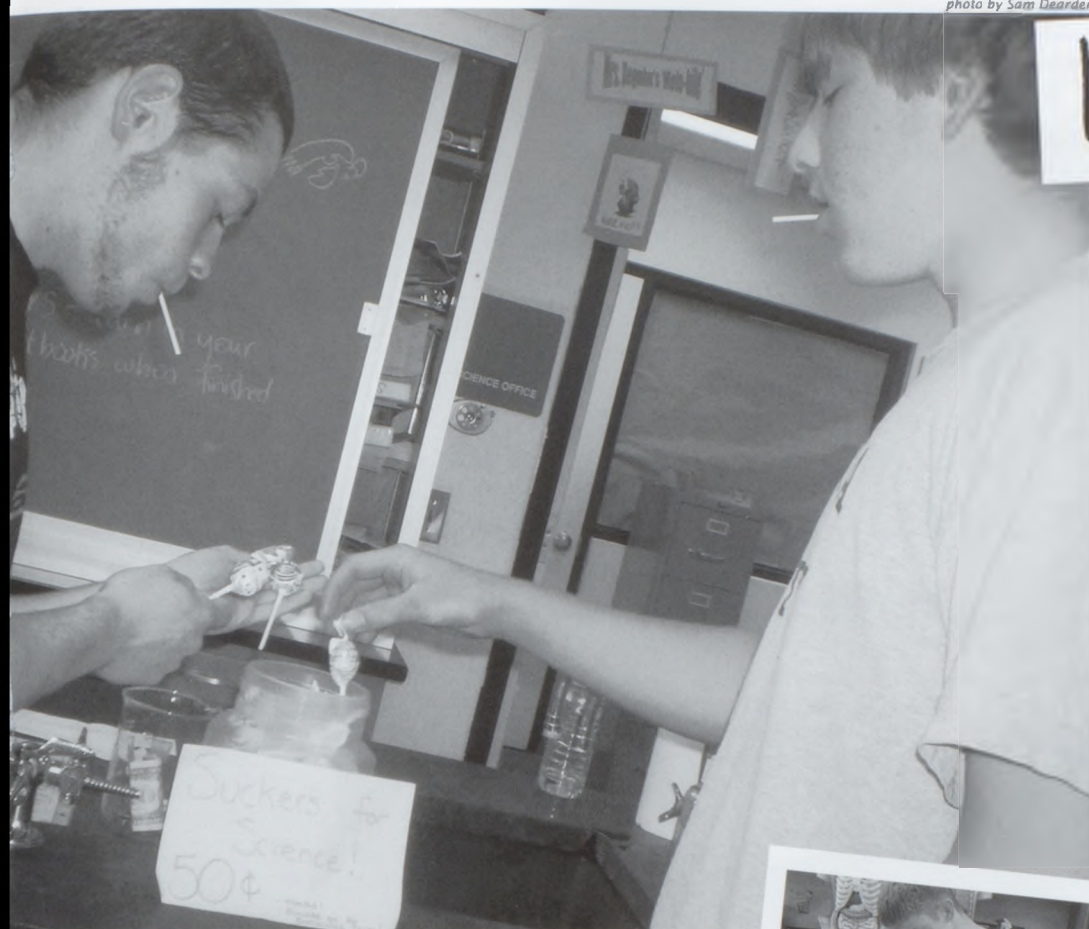
After an inspiring science convention, biology teacher Kyla Burns decided to pitch the idea of a summer trip to the Bahamas as an added science adventure. "I was thinking of taking a trip (to the Bahamas) and in October I went to a science convention in Omaha and talked to a lady there," Burns said. "She sent me information about the trip and I advertised it to the kids. There was enough interested, so I decided to go." The trip to the Bahamas provided the possibility of expanding their knowledge through snorkeling, kayaking and hiking on their own private isle. The trip also consisted of prospective classes to learn more about the marine life they encountered during the day.

Before the trip could happen, money needed to be raised for the trip. The cost totaled out to be \$1,800 per person. Fundraising proved to be a problem, with the many other fundraisers providing staunch competition. Instead, the students thought up many unique ideas to earn cash. During the last weeks of December, some students went to Borders book store to wrap gifts for customers. "People gave us donations," sophomore Alex Garland said. "It was the most enjoyable (thing) to see people's choices in books as last minute gifts for their relatives."

Round plastic containers were then set up around the school in efforts to raise money through pop cans and bottle returns. Opinions differed on the success of the pop can drive. Some felt that it was more work than needed. "It was hard to get money (from the cans)," sophomore Molly Mellinger said. "It was difficult. Every pop can counts and it doesn't seem like it adds up."

Others were delighted by the cans and the competitive twist it brought to the classroom. "There was a contest between Burns's biology classes," sophomore Sarah Blank said. "The one who (brought the most) got to choose between a pizza or a movie day."

The most profitable drive was the "Suckers for Science" fundraiser. Small jars full of the colorful candies sat in many classrooms and students were able to pay a small amount for their choice of lollipops. "The suckers were the easiest," Burns said. "Everyone loves suckers and it has raised the most money, at least \$400." *spread by Sam Dearden*



### Suckers For Science

Juniors Ryan Coffman and Hunter Beck ponder which lollipop to choose next while participating in the "Suckers for Science" fundraiser. "Science is good and all, but it's the suckers that really make me dish out the dough," Coffman said.



photo by Bethany Christenson

### Slicing the Flesh

Senior Connor Elmitt cuts open a sheep's heart in his anatomy class. "It's disturbing dissecting something that was once alive but you have to keep in mind that it's for scientific purposes," Elmitt said.

### Added Explanation

Junior Juan Cordova listens as math teacher, Danielle Pippert explains a problem. "Math (isn't) hard for me because Mrs. Pippert teaches math really well," Cordova said. "She helps me with things I don't understand relating to the topic that's being taught."

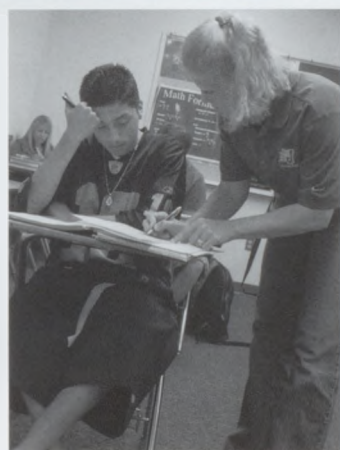


photo by Sam Dearden

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Pulmonary Medicine





# Service Team of Pro

## Summer Job:

Laying on the floor, junior Audrey Henning shares her resume with the rest of her group during advanced computation. They worked on resumes so that they would know how to make one for a summer job.

photo by Allison McGew



photo by Amanda Gabbert

**Cross-Contour:**  
Junior Niel Erbes works on his cross-contour drawing during essentials of art. "I think essentially it's a drawing of something and to give it depth you draw lines going the other way," Erbes said.

## Assimilations:

Junior Austin Pierce goes over finances during Introduction to Business. "(Taking the class) informed me on what to look for when I'm out on my own after college," Pierce said.

## Painting A Masterpiece:

Junior Rex Davidson completes his bark painting by signing his name at the bottom. The bark paintings were a project that the students did to experience Spanish culture.

## Cutting The Letters:

Senior Ross Jennings cuts out letters during photo art. After cutting out the letters, Jennings glued them on a piece of paper trying to achieve accurate spacing.

## Weather and Birthdays:

Speaking into a microphone, senior Alex Guns films a segment for video production in the busy Journalism Lab. "I needed a place with a lot of people to play off them," Guns said.

photo by Leah Kron

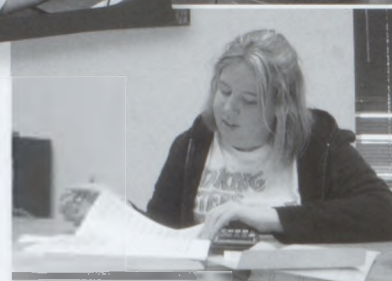


photo by Amanda Gabbert

## Designing a Layout:

Working on InDesign, sophomore Kelsey Bowen finishes her yearbook layout for Journalism. "I thought it was kind of fun because I like designing things on the computer and I'm thinking about going into graphic design," Bowen said.

photo by Allison McGrew



## Real Life:

Double checking her math, senior Dawn Wilkens works on her accounting packet. The packets were a project that the class did to give them experience in real life situations.

photo by Amanda Gabbert



photo by Katie Norris

## The Little Prince:

Holding up a star, sophomore Jeremy Mullen performs a piece of *Le Petit Prince* with fellow classmate sophomore JT Minor. "I thought it was fun because I'm not good at regular French stuff," Mullen said. "It's easier to do a skit than take a test."

## Easy Go Fitness:

Presenting her 24/7 gym, senior Annette Beswick takes part in the marketing fair. "I enjoyed it because it's something I want to do in the future," Beswick said. "I want to open my own PR firm in a big city."

photo by Emily Roeser



# Fair Challenges Young Real V

Having skipped breakfast in favor of arriving at school on time, junior Caitlin Larkin scoured the marketing fair on the hunt for the various foodstuffs she had heard so much about while journeying through the halls. "Everything looked delicious, all the colors and such," Larkin said. "I realize it was marketing ploys run amuck, but I enjoyed it all the same."

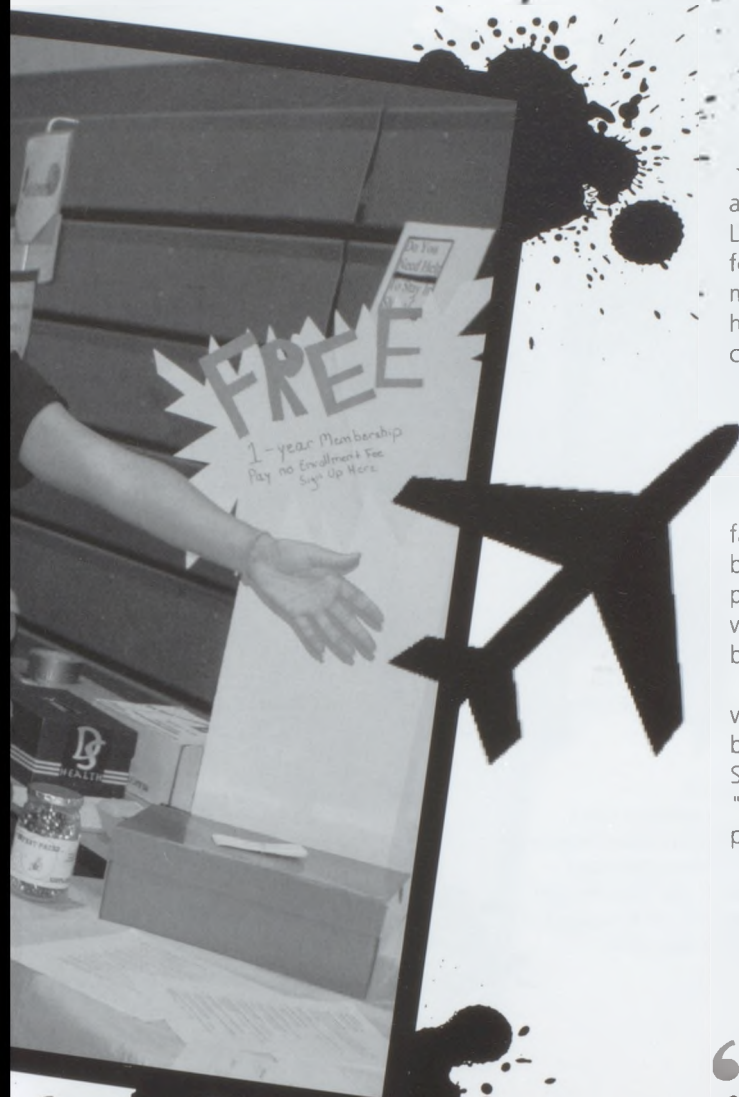
This was the second time that the marketing fair had taken place. Marketing teacher, Jacki Prehm decided to try out the fair during first semester. The idea came from business teacher Kayla Fine, who had done the project at Dowling. "I thought it went really well," Prehm said. "The kids went higher and beyond what was expected."

At the beginning of the semester, students were given an assignment to come up with a business based on their hobbies. Junior Adam Summitt's business was called Tennis Express. "I got the idea because I like tennis and I play," Summitt said, "so I thought I might as



“I took Spanish so I could learn about different cultures, and I think that learning different cultures helps me understand the world and the people in it.”

Cara Blackford '09





# Entrepreneurs in World

well do something about tennis."

As the semester progressed, students worked diligently on their business. In the process students tied their lessons from class into their individual businesses once they completed each unit. "I thought it was a great way to put everything together," junior Thomas Lashier said. "We used smaller projects from earlier in the semester and combined them into one big presentation at the fair."

To prepare for the marketing fair, students had to complete a series of tasks. They needed to come up with a logo, traffic builders and product surveys. They also had to advertise their product, trying to win the attention of fellow students browsing the fair.

To jazz things up second semester, Prehm decided to make the fair a little more interesting and added a small competition. The winner of the competition was awarded ten extra credit points for the final exam.

The students that attended the fair judged the individual businesses and voted on the best sales person, most memorable, and most professional. Once all votes had been cast the names were tallied up leaving one overall winner, sophomore John Puffett. "I ended up not needing the extra credit because I had a 93 in the class and if you had a 93 or higher you didn't have to take the final," Puffett said. "I tried selling the extra credit but my teacher wouldn't let me." *Spread by Amanda Gabbert and Megan Browning*



**Fantasy Novelist:**  
Sophomore Daniel Rasmussen listens to some tunes while working on his homework during ELP. Rasmussen worked all year on a dungeons and dragons type fantasy novel. "ELP gave me the opportunity to be creative," Rasmussen said.



**Recreating a winner:**  
Working in Computer Drafting senior Brad Nelson looks over an assignment. Nelson won first place at the Iowa Technology Expo with a remake of his lego submarine model. "I enjoyed spending time and learning the program and being able to recreate things," Nelson said.

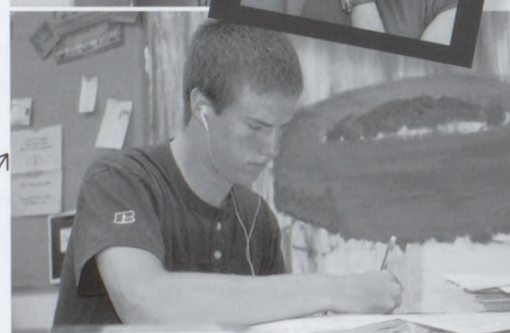


**Dream Project:**  
Senior Tyler Shannon steadily works on a project in Computer Drafting. Students made a variety of things like mechanical tools, dream houses, and even created a neighborhood from their creations.

**The Flute's Finale:**  
Senior Saliya Wijeretne shows what he has learned on the flute for his final project in ELP. "The class was very open ended and allowed us to do things we wanted to pursue," Wijeretne said.



**Caption lead in:**  
Junior Reid Jewell works on homework during fourth period ELP with Sue Cline. Jewell chose to write a sports article every week on college football for his project in the class.



**Exploring New Opportunities:**  
Senior Jenna Winzenburg checks a project in Sue Cline's fourth period ELP class. "ELP gives you a lot of options to explore other opportunities and do stuff that is outside the normal teacher's curriculum," Winzenburg said.



**Computer Inventions:**  
Senior David Kerns explores the Inventor 10 program used in Computer Drafting. "It gave us a different outlet of using computers and experimenting with different things," Kerns said.



**Fruit with a Punch:**  
Senior Alison Langston and sophomore Jenna Jergens work together to make fruit punch during Culinary Arts. "I really liked Culinary, there were a lot of nice people in the class," Jergens said.

**Smorgasbord:**  
Enjoying a delicious snack, junior Megan Hankins samples food from other classmates during ELP. The class brought in a variety of foods to munch on during their class time.




**Regional Appetites:**  
Sophomores Taylor Martz and Jessica Martinson make Tahitian pork in fourth period Culinary Arts. Throughout the year they studied different regions around the US learning the history and food of the area.





# Howe Helps Design Hopefuls Reach Higher



While it was normal for most little girls to play dress up, senior Katie Howe's interests expanded further than most. "I was always really picky about my clothes when I was little," Howe said, "and I've always loved to shop." She decided the best way to express her interest was to enroll in the fashion arts class at Central Campus, an outlet for her fashion creativity.

After completing the sewing and interior design class her freshman year, Howe decided she wanted to further her sewing skills in order to be accepted into the fashion program at Central. "Mrs. Hamilton taught me how to use sewing patterns and because of my sewing skills I ended up getting accepted at Central," Howe said. Howe was the only student at Johnston accepted into this course.

With these kind of credentials, Ruth Hamilton, family consumer science teacher, asked Howe to be a guest speaker in the design strategies class. "Katie came to talk about the programs offered

at Central and her career goals," Hamilton said. "I felt it benefited the class because she was a good example of being prepared in her career field." Howe's talk proved to be helpful to the students of the design class.

Howe offered advice to the students that she had concluded over three years of study. "I told the class what colleges are appropriate for different areas," Howe said. "I also suggested fashion merchandising if sewing wasn't their thing." Howe was personally taking this route as she continued to study fashion merchandising and planned to go into the business side of fashion rather than the design side.

From starting out in the middle school, to completing her final fashion show, Howe's goals were taking shape. "I figured out I was interested in fashion sometime around eighth grade," Howe said. "When I saw that you could actually take fashion classes in the high school orientation packet, that really became my goal."

*Spread by Bethany Christenson*



“The last two years of fashion class at Central have brought out a new confidence in myself that I never thought I had.”

*Katie Howe '03*



## In the Spotlight »

Senior Erik Mortens performs his trombone solo during the winter recognition assembly. "All of my solos are improvised," Mortens said. "When I play, I'm a little nervous at first, but then I get into the moment."

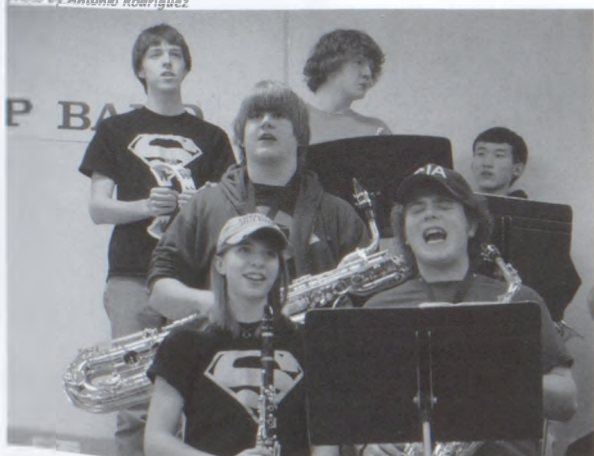
photo by Antonio Rodriguez



## School Spirit ≈

After performing the fight song at a home basketball game against Southeast Polk, senior Dane Seaberg, junior Ian White, junior Fred Zhao, senior Brad Nelson, and juniors Becky Cooper and Tim Clay cheer along. "I've seen a lot of college basketball games and college Pep Band would be a fun way to support your team," Clay said.

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



## « Band Battle

Junior Paige Sanders and senior Ryan Dickey play in the Iowa Jazz Championship April 3 at the Civic Center. Jazz Band went on to place fifth at the competition.



photo by Dawn Wilkens





# jazz band reigns supreme

Experienced players seize the opportunity to perform at elite competition

As lights drowned the stage, the first notes of "Dizzying" were emitted throughout the wide Civic Center auditorium. The moment was theirs as the members of the Jazz Band performed at the Iowa Jazz Championships in April. "There is not a lot of instruction (given) in jazz band; it gives me a chance to enjoy (the music)," band director, Patrick Kearney said. "It's my favorite part to listen to them play, just as if I were an audience member."

Being able to compete in the Championships was an honor that not many were able to engage in. Only 15 class 4-A bands from around the state advanced and were eligible to play in the Championships. "It's the top Jazz Band (competition) in the state," junior Neil Erbes said. "It's an opportunity to show what you know and learn from other people. (It's a chance to) listen to how other people play and hear the judge's comments on (their performance)."

The Jazz Band placed fifth overall in the Iowa Jazz Band Championships. Some felt that their years in band were

summed up well by acquiring the level of fifth place in the Championships. "I was ~~very~~ proud," senior Alexis Buchanan said. "It ~~was~~ a great way to end Jazz Band for me."

The high-ranking classification in the Championships was an added joy compared to the experience of playing at a big arena. "(The best part was) playing at the Civic Center," junior Daniel Chapman said. "It's a big stage, a lot bigger. I had been before and I saw people playing on-stage. I never thought I'd be playing there too."

It was the second year the Jazz Band was able to achieve the position of being in the Iowa Jazz Band Championships. "(The band) did really well this year," junior Tim Clay said. "We have great players, (a) great foundation laid by last year's seniors, a great director in Kearney, and a lot of natural talent and hard-working spirit."

As the past year's hard work was produced in the moments on-stage, reflections of how the Jazz Band students were able to be there blitzed through the mind of their instructor. "We challenge them more on their own," Kearney said. "They have accepted that challenge. (The students) practice more on their own, have more private lessons, it makes the band sound better." *Spread by Sam Dearden and Allison McGrew*



“I like concert band) because I get to dress up more and spend time with my friends because a lot of them are in band as well.”  
-Dawn Wilkens '07

## Fun with Friends ≈

Sophomores Laureca Landwehr, Hailey Christianson, and Lindsay Fredrickson share a music stand while playing at a basketball game. "Pep Band is a great reason to see friends out of school and I get to play music which I love to do," Landwehr said.



photo by Sam Dearden

photo by Kelsey Bowen

photo by Sam Dearden



## «Passing the Time

While waiting for the next activity of the band trip to begin, sophomore Hailey Christianson plays in the weight room of the hotel in Kansas City. "We would hang out in the weight room and talk or mess around with the equipment before going to jazz museums or clinics," Christianson said.

## «Performance Prep

Junior Becky Cooper practices for the SCIBA Honor Band concert held at Drake University Jan. 6 alongside fellow Honor Band members from various schools. In order to participate in Honor Band, Cooper played selected music during her audition.

# • what is unique about your instrument?

## ≈ bass guitar

Focusing on her music, sophomore Linda Brown plays bass guitar in Jazz Band. "The difference between the guitar and bass guitar is that the bass guitar is lower," sophomore Bryn Start said. "Linda's bass has four strings and mine has six."



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

## saxophone ≈

Juniors Johnathan Emehiser and Jacob Vander Ploeg play the saxophone during a Jazz Band performance. "Saxophone is the only woodwind instrument that is made out of brass," senior Mallory McKinley said. "It's more of a jazz instrument than a concert one."



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

# Jazz Results

Jack Oatts Festival	1st Place
Hoover Jazz Festival	2nd Place
SCIBA Jazz Festival	1st Place
Hoover Jazz Festival	1st Place
Iowa Jazz Championships	5th Place

## 2006 All-State Qualifiers

Kelsey Kramer	Lindsay Fredrickson
Hannah Wagner	Hailey Christianson
Katie Upton	Kathryn Gulleen
Erik Mortens	Ben Cigan - Alternate
Kevin Hu	



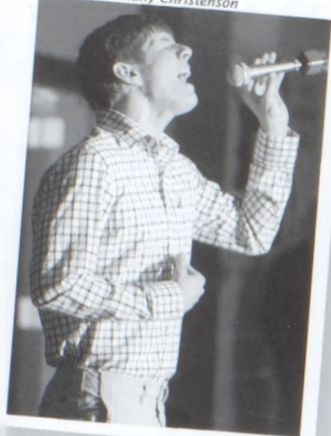
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## Belting Out A Tune »

Junior Derek Furrow hits his note during his solo, "Into the Woods" at the Cabaret after the Spring Concert. Furrow, along with ten others, performed their solos in front of parents and peers in preparation for a later solo contest.

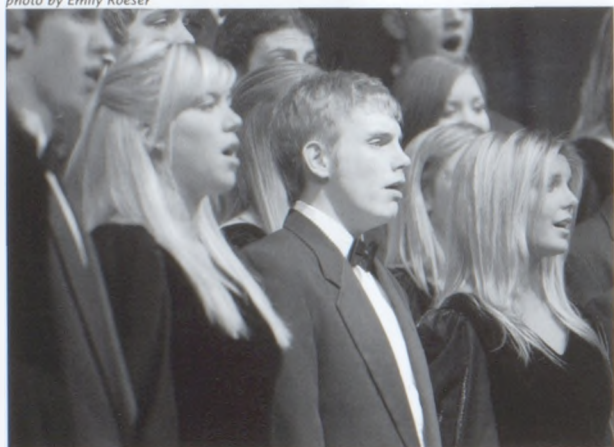
photo by Bethany Christenson



## Stage Presence ≡

Concert Choir members senior Rachel Winterbottom, along with juniors Danny Heldt and Trista Woody chant their song Lonely People at the Spring Concert. The Choir performed three songs that evening.

photo by Emily Roeser



## « I Enjoy Being A Girl

Lauren Kacere performs her solo of the same title at the spring cabaret. The cabaret was held in the lunchroom, and performed on a dim-lit stage, spotlight included.



photo by Emily Roeser

# big change, smaller space

Choir members experience a change in venue for the annual Madrigal dinner

Getting ready for the 20-minute drive downtown to the Scottish Rite Masonic Center, senior Nick Scholten never expected he would have gotten into an accident on his way to the 2005 Madrigal performance. This, along with other reasons, prompted the annual dinner to be moved to a more accessible venue.

The Madrigal dinner that the choir put on Dec. 6-7 was held in a new location. In previous years, it had been held at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center, but for this performance, it was changed to the The Bridge, a branch of Meredith Drive Reformed Church.

The cause for the relocation was mostly the issue with traveling for rehearsals and parking. "There were many advantages and disadvantages but we wanted to move it back to the community," teacher Jody White said. "We found a place to avoid the negatives."

Scholten, king of the Madrigal dinner, said that along with those issues, they also had to spend a large amount of time out of school. "Since (the Scottish Rite Masonic Center) was farther away, we had to get out of school and parents had to spend more time setting things up," Scholten said. "With the new place we spent less time out of school."

Once the process started, many of the choir members didn't get the feel of the church. "I hated it at first, it wasn't as big and didn't fit the theme of Renaissance," senior Grant Dippold said. "But it actually

wasn't as bad as I thought it was going to be."

As the preparations finished, the positives started to come around. "It was better for rehearsals, there was a better sound system, the acoustics were great and it wasn't as hot," White said.

Senior Hannah Wagner, who was the queen of the Madrigal dinner agreed. "It was actually a lot better," Wagner said. "Especially for the grandparents because the previous year we moved into a different area after dinner, so they had to walk up the stairs and the elevators were broken, so this time it was a lot better for them."

Even though the choir members felt the Scottish Rite Masonic Center had more of a Renaissance feel, more positives than negatives resulted from the move to the Bridge. "I was really sad that we didn't have it at the Scottish

Rite Masonic Center because the first year they had it there, it was actually my first year in Madrigal," senior Hailie Zulica said. "So I had this thought in my head for my senior year, but it was nice and we made it work." *spread by Emily Roeser and Bethany Christenson*



“Being the jester gave me the opportunity to play with the audience and make jokes with them. It was also fun to direct the choir and to use the kabonger.”  
-John Miller '07



## Exceptional Rating ≡

Under the direction of choir teacher Jody White, members of the concert choir compete at their state competition, held at Valley High School. White's choirs had recieved a 1 rating each year since she had been the director.



photo by Emily Roeser

photo by Emily Roeser

photo by Emily Roeser

## «Relaxation

Senior Emille Seda enjoys a casual massage from fellow senior John Miller awaiting their contest rating. The choir had to wait in the gym at Valley High School for the results of their performance.



## ≡ Questioning

Junior Chris Wilkinson seeks the guidance of director Wendy Haight, waiting for their state contest results, while junior Chris Cline observes. They recieved a 1 rating overall.

# Chorus Behind the scenes



photo by Bethany Christenson

## ≈ Warming Up

Senior Hannah Wagner laughs along to a warm up ritual before their first Madrigal performance. "Warmups are a way for students to stretch their singing abilities and prepare for a performance," sophomore Allison Kane said.

## Checking In ≈

Verifying his identity, Michelle Wallace checks a parent in before the first performance at Madrigal. The show was moved to The Bridge due to a scheduling conflict at Scottish Rite Masonic Temple. "I just raised my little hand to volunteer and they let me handle the check ins," Wallace said.



photo by Caitlin Larkin



## ≈ Sitting and Waiting

Junior Cicely Gordon, senior Brian Smith, and junior Eric Lekwa wait in the gym before their performance at the state competition. "We were just bored in the gym after we performed waiting for our results," Gordon said.



photo by Emily Roeser



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# Practice with a Purpose

## Four girls compete all season for two varsity spots

Going into the beginning of the golf season, the girls had no clue how much competition the freshmen would bring to the team. Senior Brianna Upton, sophomore Olivia Schiefelbein, and freshmen Brennan Winget and Meridith Freese caused the team to work harder to drive their scores down and keep their spots. These four girls competed for the fifth and sixth spots on varsity the whole season.

According to the girls, the season was a lot different than the previous seasons. "There is a lot more competition on varsity this year, last year it mostly stayed the same, and now the girls keep moving up and down," varsity player Lauren Doherty said.

The competition, however, was expected. "We knew before there was going to be competition for (Upton) and I, so Borich would work with us to lower scores," Schiefelbein said.

The girls had a lot of different opinions to who should have gotten the Varsity spot. "When it comes to (Upton) I think she should get it, because it is her senior year, but if it was me I would want the spot," Doherty said.

On the other hand Upton's opinion differed from Doherty's. "Varsity should be based on ability, because that is best for the team, it is more than individual desire," Upton said.

Competition was believed to have been good for the team. "When they have to fight for the position they work harder," golf coach Vikki Borich said.

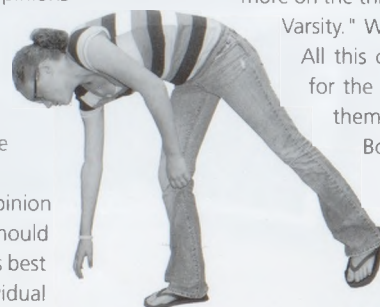
Players agreed that the competition made the team work together. "It has helped us to drive down scores and make varsity work harder to keep their spots," Schiefelbein said.

The girls felt that the competition made them more concerned about their sport. "It made me really care for the first time, it made me think about every round to keep my spot," Upton said. While the competition caused the girls to be more aware, it also put more pressure on the girls to play well.

"The stress level for the girls definitely rises, Freese said. "It makes them feel like they have to play a good round." The constant competition made the girls feel very stressed the whole season. The girls really had to concentrate on the things that would make them better. "It made me concentrate more on the things I need to work on to play on Varsity," Winget said.

All this competition developed a theme for the girls' season. "We decided the theme was practice with a purpose,"

Borich said. "This year improved abilities and made the girls more competitive." *Spread by Megan Kellogg and Matthew Courtney*



“Jester Park has a lot of geese. They poop everywhere. And one time, a goose attacked us.”  
Olivia Schiefelbein '09

Following through, junior Kate Dickey watches as she sinks her putt. Dickey made it to the green, on hole six, during a meet at Jester Golf Course.

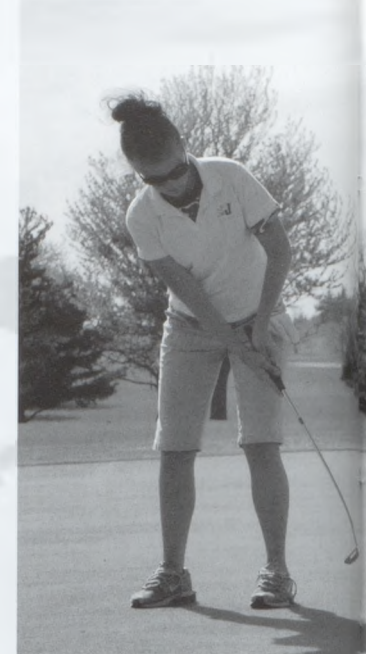


photo by Matthew Courtney

On hole four, freshman Meridith Freese tees off with her dragon ball. Freese participated at the Dowling Varsity meet. "I wasn't doing very well so I was happy when I parred that hole," Freese said.

photo by Matthew Courtney

# putt

Taking a practice swing, sophomore Alyssa Christensen prepares to chip the ball on the par-three course. The JJV team played on the par three while the JV and Varsity played on the regulation 18.



photo by Matthew Courtney



photo by Anthony Christensen

Sophomore Ashley Williamson compares scores with her opponents after a meet. The golfers had to compare scores because during a meet they switched cards, and kept the other girl's score. They also had to sign their card to show that they agreed with the score.

Taking a full swing, sophomore Brittany Thompson attempts to smack the ball to the green. Thompson, playing JV, was playing the regulation nine against Ankeny and Dowling.

photo by Matthew Courtney



photo by Matthew Courtney

Varsity golfer, junior Lauren Doherty lines up her chip to get onto the green. "This is just what I do, it's fun for me," Doherty said.



@Urbanaale Invite	4 <sup>th</sup>
@Valley Invite	9 <sup>th</sup>
Marshalltown	2 <sup>nd</sup>
@Ames	2 <sup>nd</sup>
@Ames Invite	5 <sup>th</sup>
@North Invite	4 <sup>th</sup>
Dragon Invite	4 <sup>th</sup>
Antenu Dowling	2 <sup>nd</sup>
@Fort Dodge Invite	5 <sup>th</sup>
@CIML Conference	3 <sup>rd</sup>
@Regionals	7 <sup>th</sup>

Conference Placing	
Ashley Williamson	5 <sup>th</sup>
Annette Beswick	7 <sup>th</sup>
Lauren Doherty	10 <sup>th</sup>
Brianna Upton	11 <sup>th</sup>
Kate Dickey	11 <sup>th</sup>



photo by Matthew Courtney

Sophomore Erin Funk scoops her ball out of the water on the par-three course at Jester Golf Course. With all the rain in the month of March, many golf meets were postponed. "The water was kinda of annoying, but it was fun because everyday there was a new pond on the course," Funk said.



photo by Matthew Courtney

While her Dowling opponent marks her ball, senior Paige Greenfield prepares to putt, into the hole. Greenfield was playing JV during a Dowling, Johnston meet held at Jester.







photo by Sam Dearden

Senior Ri Chan makes his way back to his seat after receiving his diploma. The students graduated at Drake University's Knapp Center where it was the third graduation of the day, following high schools Urbandale and Valley.

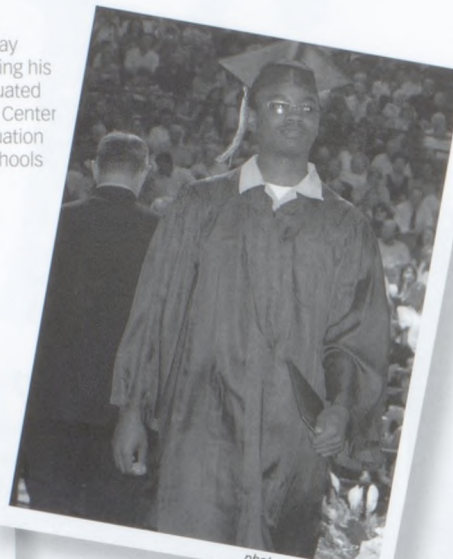


photo by Nicolette Ward

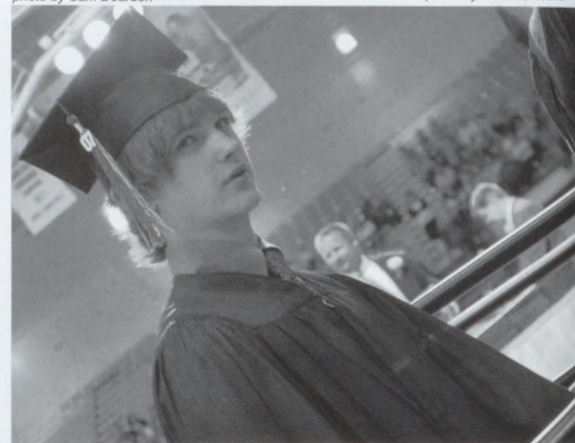
Senior Marquis Jones walks proudly offstage after he received his diploma to a bevy of hoots and hollers. Many of Jones's family members were present and raised a ruckus as his name was called.

Senior Grace Meiners, entering the Knapp Center floor at the start of the commencement ceremony, twirls the tassel of her honors cord. The cord signified that Meiners was in the top fifteen percent of her class.

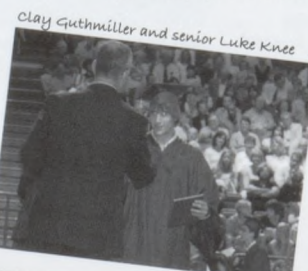


photo by Nicolette Ward

photo by Sam Dearden



Senior Austin Golightly waits anxiously offstage for his name to be called, signaling his entrance to receive his diploma. "It was very fulfilling," Golightly said. "I didn't think a little piece of paper would mean that much."



Clay Guthmiller and senior Luke Kneel

# graduation...

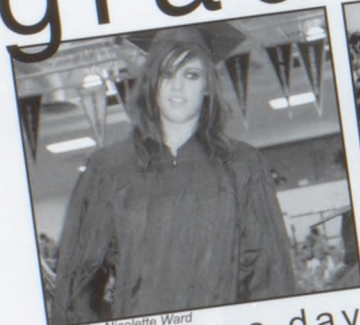


photo by Nicolette Ward

## class day

Senior Joelle Blanchard gets up in order to receive her award. Blanchard and fellow senior Lindsey Castellano won the Family and Consumer Science department award.



photo by Nicolette Ward

## class day

Senior Ryan Brault leafs through the senior spotlights pamphlet during class day. Seniors had a chance to tell about themselves in their spotlight which was organized by the Junior/Senior Board.



photo by Sam Dearden

## class day

Senior Rachel Bassel, rising to approach the stage, adjusts her graduation cap. Class day served as a practice run for the graduation ceremony at Drake University's Knapp Center on May 27.



photo by Nicolette Ward

## graduation

Senior Ross Jennings reaches out to shake superintendent Clay Guthmiller's hand. During the hour-and-a-half ceremony, 352 students received diplomas.





# I'll Pass On Class Day

[students skip seniors' shining ceremony]



photo by Nicolette Ward



Senior George Vardaxis adjusts the traditional white collar of fellow senior Abby Bowman on Class Day. All the girls in the graduating class wore the collars and many had trouble putting them on and keeping them in place.

The spotlight cut through the dark to the small duct-tape square on the wood floor, marking the place seniors were to stand to gain their moment of glory. As a voice slowly stating the name of each member of the graduating class rose, audience mutters marked some conspicuous absences in the alphabetical lineup.

Class Day, an all-school assembly begetting a half-day schedule in exchange for two or three hours seated in the gym, was a day commonly skipped by underclassmen and even members of the senior class being honored. "Honestly, I would be presented as a student, attended for four years," senior Sarah Blume said. "I mean, props to everyone who won awards but I just didn't want to be presented as just a student."

Underclassmen frequently nixed the ceremony to instead carpool to get breakfast or took the opportunity to sleep in. In doing so, they took on a certain amount of risk, as first-period teachers were required to take roll before chaperoning their students to the gym. This measure had been taken in an effort to prevent

such skipping.

According to Junior/Senior Board member, senior Sam Leahy, somewhere between 40 to 50 seniors skipped the class day ceremony. "It was disappointing but it's their choice," Leahy said. "I know the ceremony gets long. Overall it went smoothly, it went just as well as if those kids were there."

Many students, fed up with what they feel is wasted time, were pushing to make Class Day an evening ceremony, making it optional for those not directly involved in the ceremony to attend and freeing up the schedules of parents who struggled to attend due to work conflicts. According to Junior/Senior Board member, junior Leah Kron, the change would make proceedings for the ceremony a little more difficult. "The problem for Junior/Senior Board would be that they would have less ushers," Kron said. "Because that's the reason students usher, so they don't have to sit there."

Despite the lack of interest and challenging schedule, members of the Junior/Senior Board agree that the ceremony ran well.

*Spread by Grace Meiners, Kiley Dewhurst and Nikki Ward*



“I was going to skip and go out to breakfast because I heard it was long and very boring. I figured going to breakfast would be more fun than sitting on the bleachers in the dark.”  
Matthew Courtney '09

## A Telling Testimony »

While showing the court where the entrance and exit were at the club, sophomore Jenny Ajluni plays the witness, Fran Banning. Ajluni spoke while teammate, sophomore Leah Belknap, watched.

photo by Erin Funk



## Anxiously Awaiting ≡

Juniors Lauren Kacere and Audrey Henning discuss last minute details as they wait with sophomore Azra Bagonavich for the bus to arrive. The teams were heading to regionals to compete and find out if they would move onto qualifying.

photo by Katie Norris



photo by Erin Funk

## « Critiquing Coach

After school, the week of qualifying for the competition, sophomore Adam Helgeson runs through his attorney part with freshman Joe Payne. Coach Justine Blanchard (left) comments on their direct. Helgeson practiced with Payne who was witness Mel Fripp.

# And then There Was One

One mock trial team continues on to state

Each mock trial team listened intently during the announcement to see which groups would go on to state from run-offs. "We (team "D-Dawg") felt nervous, wondering what was going to happen," junior Doug Haefeale said.

"Team Purple," "Zissou," and the "Tepid Jaguars," were also present with "D-Dawg." Once they finished announcing which teams would go on to state, each of the teams except "Team Purple" found their names unheard. "At that point we didn't expect to lose," Haefeale said. "We were shocked and disappointed; it's never fun to figure out you just lost. We all looked at each other, hugs went around, (and then) reserverance, (and) accept."

Members of "D-Dawg" were returning state semi-finalists; they channeled their experience into confidence going into runoffs. Exactly half of Johnston's mock trial teams went to districts and made it into the second day of competition: run-offs. There were 12 other teams from across the state listening along with them.

Run-offs were competitions where each team had a certain rank and they went against opponents of equal ranking. From there they followed a system much like a basketball tournament would. Two teams competed and

that winner would go against the winner of another match, but losing didn't mean a team would stop competing, they just didn't gain a point. The winners were the ones with the highest scores at the end.

Having mock trial teams continue on from run-offs and keep going through state was never a surprise, but never was there just one team to do so. "We've always had more that went (to state) since I've been in charge," mock trial advisor Sue Cline said. "I think we had a really successful season even though only one made it to state. We learned a lot."

"D-Dawg," not continuing on came as a surprise for everyone, even fellow teams that didn't make it. "We (the "Tepid Jaguars") were more worried about 'D-Dawg', because they have a lot of seniors," sophomore Ethan Nutter said. "We didn't have any seniors."

"Team Purple" was the only team who continued on to state. "We really wanted to win all three trials on (Friday, the first day of) state to move on to the final four on Saturday."

junior Katherine Burggraaf said. "We worked harder than we ever have. This was the first year I finally understood every single legal jargon thing I said and objected to."

"Team Purple" ended up losing a match and finished in sixth place. *spread by Katie Norris and Erin Funk*

“I have been in mock trial since eighth grade, because I love to argue with people.”

-Sarah Timmons '09





## Season Starts

Practicing in the Iowa Connection Network (ICN) room, juniors Julia Steggerda, Doug Haefele and senior Julia Zhang rehearse their parts. The trial was about a club fire, started by pyrotechnics, which killed a seventeen year-old boy.

# The role playing of mock trial

## Attorney

Preparing for the upcoming trial, sophomores Frank Niu and Brandon Soda get papers ready for the opposing team. "I've played an attorney every year for mock trial," senior Tana Friesth said. "I like to be in control and I like cross examinations because I can be aggressive and trap the witness in their lies."



photo by Erin Funk

## Witness

As the scrimmage judge listens to the witness testimony, junior Tucker Vasey plays his character, Mel Fripp. "Every year I play a witness, because it is much more enjoyable than playing an attorney," sophomore Zac Stevens said. "You get to act, and you really get to mess with people."



photo by Katie Norris



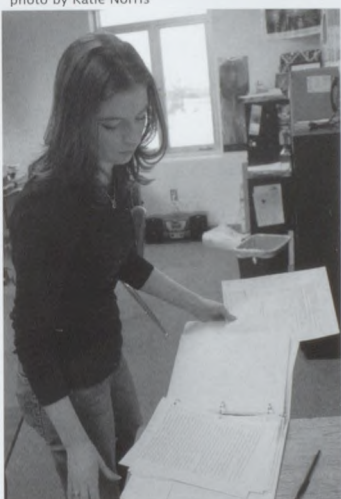
## Crossing the Witness

Junior Torey Robinson questions the opposing witness during her cross examination at the state competition, while junior Cory Gagne listens to her teammate, and reviews her notes. Robinson and Gagne were part of "Team Purple," the only team that made it to state.



## Scrimmage Shuffle

Taking on another team, junior Michelle Wallace searches through her binder. Wallace's team was preparing to qualify for the fast-approaching state competition. They scrimmaged other Johnston and Valley teams.



## Time Keeper

Holding up a time card, junior Tim Clay keeps time for the "Tepid Jaguars," when they were on the plaintiff side. "I had never done timekeeping before, and the girl next to me kept confusing me," Mindy Dickerson said, "but I ended up beating her because she dropped her notecards!"



photo by Katie Norris



# Mercy Medical Centers

## A Clean Face»

At the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee, junior Drew Houpp washes his hands after a long day. It was Houpp's first year in newspaper and his first national journalism convention. "Nashville is an interesting place," said Houpp. "I got a lot of great photos, bought some good music, and had a lot of fun."

photo by Dan Hate



Members of third period newspaper listen to Torey Robinson tell the happenings of the day. They were interested in the breakup of a couple.

## Lets Talk ≡

photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Grace Mainers

## «Rough Times

Juniors Lauren Proffitt and Hana Kajtazovic make a rough layout on planning sheets. They were part of the third period newspaper class. "I love newspaper," Kajtazovic said. "There is just a great crowd of kids. We always have a good time and all seem to get along."





# Newspaper **overcomes** **issues**

Editorial staff helps motivate and create ideas while fighting disinterest

Going into the year, seniors Mike Slusark and Larissa French were skeptical of the new staff. "A lot of talented writers graduated," Slusark said. "I also knew it was going to be hard to motivate people."

French and Slusark soon found out that they suffered not from a lack of good writers, but a lack of good ideas. "Before, we would sit down as a class and come up with ideas," French said. "We tried that, but we'd come up with two quality ideas and the editorial staff would have to come up with the rest."

In order to fix this problem, the class decided to have each member of the staff come up with two quality ideas each Wednesday. Next, they were required to develop those ideas by the following Friday. "We had fewer ideas, but they were much better quality than we had previous," French said.

After the problem of quality ideas was solved, French saw a definite turn in the beginning of the second semester. "The review pages really came into their own," she said. "We had always been pushing for two review pages and we finally got it."

The change, French and Slusark felt, was largely in part to senior Alex Guns. "The review pages weren't really anything because journalism class didn't really teach how to write a review," Guns said. "After reading reviews and paying close attention, I finally got it down and was able to teach other people. I also paid close attention to the review layouts."

Slusark's felt that his expectations were met. "I was expecting to have to stay late a few nights a month finishing things for other people," he said, "and that's what basically happened." *Spread by Grace Meiners and Dani Stansberry*

“Even though paste-up afternoons can be really long, it's usually not that bad because the people in here are a lot of fun.”

Torey Robinson '09



## Great Potential ≡

Senior Larissa French interviews  
2000 graduate Sarah Coleman-  
Lubbs about her trip to Sudan.  
French received two Quill and Scroll  
awards and planned to become the  
news editor at UNI after graduation.



photo by Grace Meiners

photo by Grace Meiners



## « Tennessee Times

Senior Alex Guns rifles through records looking for any old Pete Seeger albums at a local record store in Nashville, Tennessee. The newspaper and yearbook staff traveled to Nashville for their annual journalism trip where they stayed for four days at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel.



# what makes a quality newspaper?



photo by Grace Meiners

## ≈ photos

Senior Dan Haight takes photos during boys soccer practice. According to Haight, his favorite part of newspaper was taking pictures and jumping on the counter in the journalism lab despite Leslie Shipp's threats of a referral. "Haight has a incredible vertical jump," said Shipp. "I just wish he would have gone out for the track team instead of jumping on my counters."

## stories ≈

Junior Cicely Gordon works away on her final story of the year.

Newspaper allowed students to unleash creative talents in writing, design, and photography. "I like writing stories because sometimes you get to write about really cool things and experience new things too," Amy Lovejoy said.



photo by Dani Stansberry



## ≈ layouts

Sophomore Tina Li works on her sports page for newspaper's last deadline. "Layouts have never really been my thing, but I like making everything work together and become one," junior Brittany Deal said.



photo by Dani Stansberry

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## Ah Ha! »

Junior Jordan Van Essen does a read through during rehearsal for the fall play. Van Essen won the part of playing Trotsky in the short play of the "Variations of Trotsky's Death."

photo by Olivia Schiefelbein



## There Will Be Trouble ≡

While playing the Dutchess Frederica, junior Nicolette Ward yells at Orlando, who was played by Josh Merritt. "I'd been designated the airhead role for a while, and I wanted the chance to be mean," Ward said. "Frankly, I like yelling at people."



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

## « Love at First Sight

Juniors Julia Stegerda and Sam Han read off their lines for the spring play *As You Like It* at the auditions. The characters Oliver, played by Han, and Cicila, played by Stegerda, fell in love during the scene.



# Song and dance Find the Play

*As You Like It* features songs that are the hopeful beginnings of a musical

Director Paul Miller had always been asked, "Why doesn't Johnston do a musical?" In order to satisfy those wanting a musical, Miller decided to incorporate some musical parts in the play. The spring play, *As You Like It*, had a total of five songs and it was eventually cut down to four for the finale. For Miller it was a start to the belief that one day they would be able to do more recognizable musical productions, such as *Oklahoma!* or *Kiss Me Kate*.

Doing a musical had some challenges for the director and cast members, and according to Miller, a cast member dropped out three days before the finale, and they had to omit one of the songs. "This one was definitely the most difficult because it was Shakespeare, and people didn't show up to the rehearsals, but the finished project was one of the best," senior Josh Merritt said. "I was really scared the last few days before the play, but we really pulled it through."

With some of the students not showing up to every rehearsal, it was hard for the cast members to get a good sense of the

smooth the play was going to go on the nights of the final performances.

Even doing a play with few songs was different for the members of the play. "It was a lot of fun," junior Julia Steggerda said. "I personally love performing in general and being in a musical really expands your ability and broadens the repertoire more than you get with other plays." Steggerda sang a solo in the play and had never experienced singing in front of a large audience by herself, she had one or two people on stage behind her.

"I thought it was good because there was a lot of kids who got involved and did not go on stage," Miller said. "I worry about the students get out of it, and songs give them another chance to be on stage." The musical allowed more students to be on the stage, and the production also allowed people to be involved in the play without actually being on stage.

With the setbacks that the cast, crew, and director faced, the show went on. "I think that it's good for high school students to experience musicals," Miller said. "A musical would be great if we could get the whole school involved." *Spread by Julia Schiefelbein*



“*As You Like It* was Shakespeare, and it had a lot of humor that you had to take a double-take on it.”  
-Brittany Deal '09

## Love Both Ways ≡

Undercover as a man, junior Lauren Kacere faints in front of senior Rebecca Stoeker. Kacere just learned that her secret crush loved her as well in the spring play.



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

photo by Olivia Schiefelbein



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein



## « You Love Her?

Sophomore Cody Lenz stands facing junior Ryan Campbell preparing to fight. Campbell played Touchstone, while Lenz was William. Both men were in love with the character Audrey, but Touchstone finally won her heart and took Audrey's hand in marriage.

## « Singing on the Stage

Singing one of the four songs, in act five, scene three of *As You Like It*, junior Julia Steggerda plays the character Audrey. "My character was really ditzy, so I didn't have to be really technical about it," Steggerda said.



The process to  
**stand in front**  
 of the lights

## ≈ Auditions

Junior Ben Schnurr and sophomore Sarah Ingstrom try out for the fall play. "Tryouts were very organized and Miller seemed to know exactly what he wanted and tried to get that out of his students," senior Austin Golightly said.



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein

## Rehearsal ≈

Rebecca Stoeker, who played Mrs. Trotsky, uses an AP Biology book until an encyclopedia was located for "Variations of Trotsky's Death." "Rehearsals are where you discover yourself and the play," Paul Miller said. "Without them you'd be lost."



photo by Olivia Schiefelbein



## ≈ Finale

Senior Josh Merritt teaches junior Lauren Cordes jibberish in the fall play, *All in the Timing*. "I thought it was interesting how they divided it into several different plays," sophomore Mindy Dickerson said.



Photo by Olivia Schiefelbein



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photo by Matthew Courtney

Holding each other close, junior Joe Evans and sophomore Senjuri Jayatileka share a romantic moment on the dance floor. The couple started dating during prom and had continued dating throughout the school year.



photo by Megan Kellogg



photo by Matthew Courtney

Sophomores Emily Meng and Amanda Paskawitz play against each other to win a prize at after prom. The goal of the game was to roll the ball down the ramp into one of the winning slots, but unfortunately neither girl won.



photo by Matthew Courtney

photo by Azra Feriz

# prom . . .



Taking a break from dancing, senior Heather Dickenson and her boyfriend share a prom kiss. "It was my last prom and I was glad I got to share the night with someone I care about," Dickenson said.



photo by Matthew Courtney

After playing games all night, sophomore Annie Gray takes her collection of tickets to the game table where her prize awaits. Gray won a George Forman grill when she made the ball into a prize winning slot.



photo by Matthew Courtney

Senior Rachel Winterbottom sleeps after walking off stage and shortly waking up from a hypnotic trance. "I remember waking up and just thinking something was funny," Winterbottom said. Walking off the stage was all she remembered.

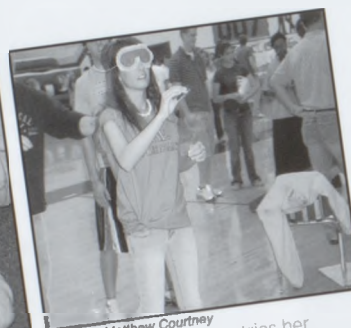


photo by Matthew Courtney

Senior Tasha Hagaman tries her hardest after being spun around blindfolded to pin the tie on James Bond. "I was really dizzy and ended up pinning the tie on his nose," Hagaman said.



Seniors Kyle Thomann, Meredith Manning, Emilie Seda and Tyler Shannon test their luck at poker during the after prom. "We just kept playing until we won," Manning said. "The dealer was really funny so playing was fun too." In order to win five dollars, the players needed to fill up their hand of cards.

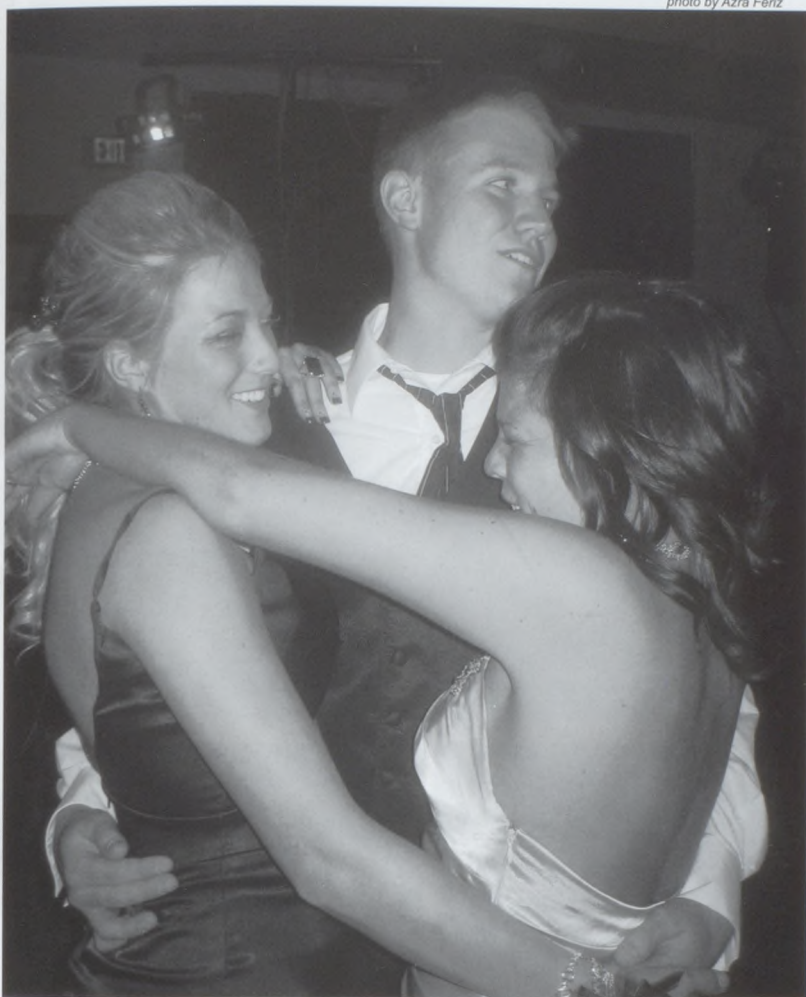


# A twist to a fairytale night

[ Choking incident changes memories of prom ]



photo by Azra Feriz



Senior Troy Nielson slow dances with his two friends from Urbandale junior Courtney Schooley and senior Angela Osby. "I didn't even bring them I don't even know how I got them," Nielson said jokingly.

When most people think back to prom, thoughts of limo rides, party dresses, tuxedos and happy memories come to mind. However, for Jonathan Bunting and the rest of his prom group, that is not all they thought of when looking back on their prom night.

After taking pictures, Bunting and his prom group headed to Christopher's for a pre-prom dinner. Soon after arriving and ordering, the group was served their meals. "I was eating steak and shrimp when a piece of steak got stuck in my throat," Bunting said. "I thought I could get it out myself, so Matt Bengston and I went to the bathroom."

Back at the table the rest of the group began to worry. "We were all really scared. We had no idea what was going on," sophomore Abby Sonner, Bunting's date, said. "Jon just got up and left with Matt. We wanted to help but we didn't know what to do."

"The boys were gone for a really long time and we didn't know where they went," Sonner said. "So, Leslie Ware went to the bathroom to find them. She was gone for a long time so we all went to the bathroom but they boys wouldn't come out. They told us to go to the dance without them."

When Bunting realized he couldn't get the steak out at the restaurant, he headed home to perform "surgery" on himself. The rest of the group had refused to go to prom without Bunting, and went home with him instead. "I had to stick a long plastic tube down my throat to push the steak out of the way and open my throat back up," Bunting said. "For five years now I have had a narrowing in my throat and things get stuck every once and a while. It is just one of those things I have to deal with, I can't really change the fact that I have it. It doesn't really bother me."

After his choking incident, Bunting and the rest of his prom group returned to having a fun prom night. "Nothing went wrong the rest of the night. He acted like nothing had gone wrong earlier in the night and he was ready to party," Sullivan said.

"It is just one of those weird, scary things that happened," Sonner said. "I just hope it is the only time I have to deal with someone choking again." Spread by Hanna Souhrada and Azra Feriz



“Instead of walking back down the Grand March, my date and I did the 'Meet Me in the Club, it's Going Down' dance.”  
Cali Kness 09





# Students sound check on the mic

## Too Darn Hot ≡

Pouring on the added effects, Senior Matt Burch winks at his audience as he sings his solo in *Too Darn Hot*. "Matt Burch was amazing for us," junior Chris Cline said. "He was just so red! Just kidding, Burch. Thanks for everything Matt."

photo by Abby Weaver



photo by Abby Weaver



## ≡ It's Time To Act

Eyes wide open, junior Michelle Wallace sings perched on junior Bryce McClure's back. "Michelle did a great job with her solo," junior Ciera Lundgren said. "She added character and personality."

photo by Ciera Lundgren



## Another Idol ≡

With encouragement from friends and family junior Derek Furrow sings *God Bless the Broken Road*, his solo from the previous year. "Derek is a hard worker and he knows what he's doing," sophomore Lindsay Timmons said, "he deserved to win best male soloist."

## Show Chior Results

### Innovation

Linn Marr » 4th  
Urbandale » 2nd  
Fort Atkinson » 1st  
SEP » 1st in 4A

1st in Finals  
Emmitsburg » 1st in 4A  
1st in inals

Branson » National Grand Champion

### Synergy

Linn Marr  
Urbandale » 2nd in Prep Division  
SEP » 1st in Prep Division  
2nd in Finals

Emmitsburg » 1st in Prep Division  
5th in Finals

## ≡ The Grand Finale

Marking the end of the season, junior Cicely Gordon strains to hold the final pose of the Innovation show while Senior Klay Queck looks over the audience for the last time. The senior members of Innovation said goodbye along with directors Jody White and Wendy Haight.

photo by Abby Weaver



## Music Keeps on Playin' »

photo by Ciera Lundgren

Synergy poses for the end of their song "Viva La Fiesta." Juniors Jake Vander Ploeg and Chelesa Kumbura tested their strength in the final minutes of the routine.



photo by Abby Weaver



## Performing in Pink »

Senior Emeri Sams dances along to "I Never Knew". The girls performed this song after learning the lyrics and choreography in two weeks for their annual end of the year show.



# Practiced Improv Proves Perfection

Seven Synergy members contribute to Grand Champion conclusion

Swallowing the butterflies threatening a flawless vocal performance, members of the varsity show choir, Innovation, stood just offstage peering out into the intimidating auditorium in Branson, Missouri, seconds away from the performance of a lifetime. Frozen in position, the choir sprang into action as they had at so many other performances in their already successful season only this time, they had company.

For seven performers the steps raced frantically through their minds, a silent prayer to keep from misstepping the carefully calculated motions they had learned just weeks before. "I was nervous because we learned the choreography in a month and a half," synergy member, sophomore Josh Wenndt said. "I wasn't sure how well I knew the show."

Just short of two months before the choir would travel to Branson, a small tryout was held as a means of filling in the holes. In addition to Wenndt, sophomores Ashley Williamson, Caroline Byrd, Taylor Martz, Betsy Pilkington, and juniors Jarrod Steen, and Zach Dicken were selected to perform with

Innovation. According to Wenndt, the adopted members had a lot of work to do on their own time, referencing Innovation members, DVD's of the show, and even working through lunch in order to perfect the new performance.

All their hard work paid off as Innovation went on to win the competition at Branson and became national champions. "I was very anxious to perform and also kind of nervous," junior Synergy member Zach Dicken said. "I felt very relieved for it to be over." All their anxiety was released as they accepted a very large addition to their collection of hardware and pride swelled within the choir members.

According to sophomore Synergy member, Taylor Martz, the feeling of being part of a national champions group would be something she took away from her experience. "It was an amazing experience to perform at a national competition and win!" Martz said.

The experience was an emotional one for Innovation members as well. "I was overwhelmed," Innovation member, junior Ciera Lundgren said. "I saw people crying and seeing my mom cry was a good feeling. I basically lost my voice from all the screaming." The impact of the win stretched throughout the choir, knowing that this would be the last competition they would take part in under the direction of Jody White. *Spread by Abby Weaver and Kiley Dewhurst*

"Synergy was a great experience for what high school show choir is like. I had a lot of fun with Mrs. Haight and it was fun to be able to express myself through the solo I had."

Betsy Pilkington '09



photo by Abby Weaver



## « Showing Off Old Props

Junior Cicely Gordon models as a Las Vegas show girl during the end of the year show. The show contained a segment about past props used in show choirs.

## ≈ Backstreet's Back

Taking a cue from the boy bands throughout the years, senior Eric Tubbs, juniors Bryce McClure and Chris Wilkinson pose during the boys' song. The boys sung classic songs from a variety of boy bands from the Jackson 5 to the Backstreet Boys.

photo by Abby Weaver



## Holding Back the Tears »

Embracing one another, seniors Todd Sexton, Emily Seda, and Matt Burch sing their final song as seniors. "I'm going to miss everyone next year," Burch said.

"We had a lot of good times together. I want to wish all the seniors good luck, and may God bless them in their life path."



photo by Abby Weaver

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## Longtime Teammates Create Good Chemistry

### Familiarity among members strengthens team

Memories flooded in when a player looked back on a sport they participated in. Typically they remembered playing since they were little, but for the boys' soccer team, seeing their teammates' faces were as familiar as the game. "I've been playing with all of them (the team) as long as I've been playing ball," junior Ryan Lay said. "If I don't know them as well, (I'm) a little hesitant to pass them the ball."

The simple fact that many of the team members had known each other for a good part of their lives made a difference among the team. Playing with similar faces helped to build a bond of trust between players that affected their strategy. "I can trust a guy I've played with for long a time, more than (a guy) I haven't," sophomore Jeremy Mullen said. "If you know each other, it makes us play stronger together."

Getting rid of the edge that surrounded new team members together helped to create a greater force among them as junior Danny Sigmund said. "The other players are good and fun to be around," Sigmund said. "I've played with about five (of the members) since I was ten. We have good chemistry."

Having that senior leadership mixed with familiarity created a good chemistry among the team. "The players worked better because they knew how they played," senior Brian Smith said. "They knew their strengths and weaknesses, (that) helped with our chemistry. It helps to play with each other and (that) the guys respected what I said."

Sharing those opinions of senior leadership was senior Nick Scholten. "We have a lot of senior leadership," Scholten said. "Most of the kids in my grade (I've played with) for most of my life."

Even those who hadn't played together were well aware of those who had been, however, that didn't create cliques in the team. "I played with some (of the guys) over the summer for (Des Moines) Menace," junior Alex Kem said. "Our team chemistry is really strong; we all get along with each other. We don't get mad at each other. We stick together as a team."

The boys made it to substate where they lost against Ankeny, 1-0. However, that didn't signal a bad season for sophomore, Ernad Muratovic. "It was still fun playing with the all the guys," Muratovic said. "At the beginning of the season (having those players who were used to each other made a difference), but later on we got more comfortable (with each other). Everyone improved (more) than years before."

Coach Matt Todd agreed with the improvement in the team. "I thought we improved a lot," Todd said. "It helped a lot that they (the boys) knew what the others were going to. It helps them to play faster than a lot of other teams." Pulling that bond from time spent with each other enabled the team to strengthen and improve through the chemistry they created. *Sped by Katie Norris*

“We're very hard working, and had a good team. It was disappointing to not make it to state, (because) I thought we worked hard enough. There's always next year.”  
-Derek Farrow '08



Playing the ball at the Dowling game, defense midfielder junior Mark Anderson tries to keep it away from his opponents. "It's nice to play midfielder, (because) you get to handle the ball a lot," Anderson said. "We shouldn't have lost that game. We had possession of the ball a lot more than they (Dowling) did."



photo by Katie Norris

Forward junior Trey Wright runs down the field for an opportunity to score. "I needed to beat those two guys to score," Wright said. "I like (forward) because you're always in the action of scoring."

# kick

photo by Dan Haight



Using his head to cut off Ankeny's chance of scoring, senior Jacob Pfundheller clears the ball. "I was just clearing it on a cross," Pfundheller said. "I cleared it out so they (Ankeny) couldn't score."

photo by Kirby Dawhurst



photo by Katie Norris

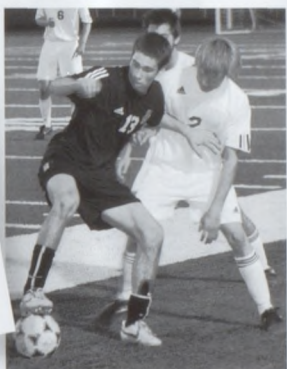


photo by Dan Haight

Preparing to kick the ball at the Urbandale game, junior Josh Camos looks for somewhere to aim for. "I play forward, I look to see where the goalie's at (when I kick)," Camos said. "We owned the ball for the first 20 minutes of the game. (it) set the game."

Junior Dustin Pierre attempts to retrieve the ball from his South East Polk opponent. "I wanted to win," Pierre said, who plays midfielder.



photo by Leah Kron

Center fielder, sophomore Brad Meek, prepares to pass to try and open up the field. "I like that it's a fast-paced position," Meek said. "I have a chance to make a lot of big plays. I was trying to play possession, (and) give everyone a chance to get a touch on the ball."



vs. Norwalk 2-1  
 vs. Lincoln 3-1  
 @ Waukee 0-4  
 vs. Fort Dodge 2-1  
 vs. Ankeny 1-2  
 vs. East 5-1  
 vs. Indianola 3-0  
 vs. Roosevelt 1-0  
 vs. Urbandale 3-0  
 @ Valley 2-5  
 vs. Dowling 0-1  
 @ South-East Polk 5-1  
 @ Ankeny 0-1



photo by Katie Norris

Playing left midfielder, junior Justin Dierks looks for a chance to set up for a shot for the goal in their game against Ankeny. "I like (my position) because you get to play a lot of offense and defense," Dierks said, "not just one thing."



photo by Katie Norris

Waiting for permission to substitute in at the game against Ankeny, sophomore Aaron Schultz and senior Matt Carlson tentatively wait. "I'm thinking of what our team needs at the time," Carlson said about his thoughts prior to joining the game.

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# Dahl's Foods



# Longtime friendships improve the game

## Girls' success contributes to many years of playing together

As the senior girls gathered around the south end of the soccer field, preparing to walk across the track for senior night prior to the game against Waukee, it was a time when the girls finally realized that this would be their last time playing with each other on their home field. "We have done so many things this year," senior Becky Heffling said. "I love everyone on my team and will miss them so much next year."

All of the seniors on the varsity girls soccer team had played with each other since the age of eight in clubs, and together they learned the basics of soccer. "It was fun in club," senior Meredith Manning said. "We didn't care about scoring or winning, just as long as we had fun."

Besides club soccer, the girls have also played soccer on state teams, winning the NSC cup in Minnesota, and then in high school. The girls have been on the same team at numerous events, which has helped them on the field. "Playing with each other for a long time has helped a lot," senior Kelsey Kovacevich said. "It has helped by having others know your strengths and weaknesses."

In addition to playing, the girls have spent numerous times together, off the field. Having sleepovers, bon fires, and pasta dinners. "Our team sleepover was the (most fun) night of my life," senior Becky

Heffling said. "Laser tagging was so much fun."

The girls started out the season with many goals, but the two goals they wanted to achieve were to beat Valley and win state. "No matter where we were, we just wanted to beat Valley," Kovacevich said. The girls fell short of that goal losing to Valley 2-0, but they did however, win their conference.

Playing with each other since the age of eight has helped the team understand one another better, helped to know what plays to run, and has built the chemistry up on the team. "Playing with each other before, has helped out so much," Manning said. "We already work together very well, that is a thing some teams have to work on for a long time."

Playing with the same team for a long time, sparked nerves for some players who planned to play soccer in college. For many it means starting from scratch and leaving behind the strong chemistry that took years to create.

Growing up in soccer together, contributed to the bond that the girls have for one another and helped build them up. "It's very unusual for an all girls team to have no cat fights," Kovacevich said. *Spread by Ciera Lundgren*

“Rollison and the girls are a lot of fun. Plus soccer is sweet whenever you take people out on the field.”

Kerri Dreibelbeis '09



Freshman Madison Thompson attempts to maneuver around Waukee's defender at senior night. The girls ended their regular season at home beating the Warriors 3-0.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Sophomore Kate Nielsen tries to catch up with Valley's defender. Nielsen gave Valley's goalie a busy game taking many shots on the goal. "At the end of the game she came up to me, put her hands on my shoulders and said, 'You scare me to death'," Nielsen said.



# Dribble

photo by Kiley Dewhurst



Going for the goal, senior Becky Heffling tries to block Valley opponent, Whitney Sharp. "Valley was our biggest game of the regular season," Heffling said. "We lost 2-0, they had won like 30 games straight when we played them."



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

DC Grimes Valley	6-0
@ Ft. Dodge	0-2
@ Indianola	7-0
@ Cornie (DM Roosevelt)	4-0
Urbandale	10-0
@ Valley	4-0
vs Waukee	
vs Roosevelt	1-0
Dowling	10-0
@ Urbandale Complex	2-0
vs Pleasant Valley	
vs Council Bluffs	1-3
vs Marshalltown	5-1
SEP	
@ Ankeny	6-0
@ Cornie (DM Lincoln)	4-0
Waukee	7-2
	5-0
	3-0

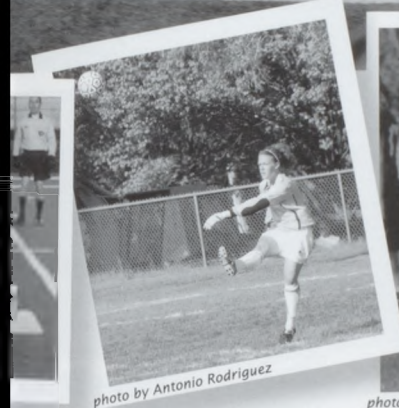


photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

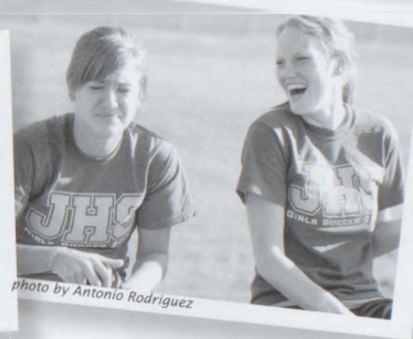


photo by Antonio Rodriguez



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Freshman Nicole Postel punts the ball downfield after making a save during the Dowling game. At the end of the game Johnston won 2-0.

Senior Abby Davis prepares for a throw in during the game against Dowling. "This season has been amazing, we have been winning most of the games and the girls are fantastic," Davis said.

Sophomore Maria Taylor takes a break at the junior varsity game against Dowling. "It got really hot and I got sweaty so I got a really big drink," Taylor said.

Seniors Meredith Manning and Micah Casey laugh together at the varsity game against Dowling. "Our team had a good season," Casey said. "It was really cool to win conference."

Dribbling the ball, senior Amanda Lower tries to get around her Valley opponent. "We should have won that game against Valley; the shots on us were ones we shouldn't have had," Lower said.



# Deep voices bring inspiration

## Cheering from the other end takes team in a new direction

After finishing the last leg of his race, freshman Blake Johnson gazed up at the scoreboard to take note of his time, all the while realizing he couldn't relax quite yet. Only when everyone on his team finished their race would his outcome be decided. While most people would dub swimming an individual sport, the team was convinced otherwise.

"We do everything together as a team. We go out to eat a lot and we have Grey's Anatomy (nights) at Charlie Thuentes house," freshman Blake Johnson said.

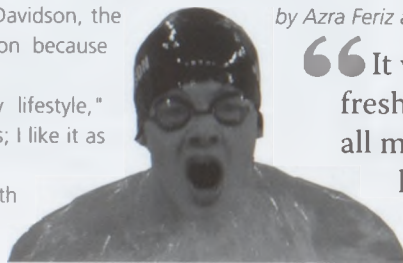
The team saw potential in their relays and came to the conclusion that working as a team was much more effective than working individually.

With different people leading lanes, it made them faster than ever according to coach Shari Walling. The team had slower people lead the lanes so it would encourage them to go faster and try harder.

"(Junior) Rex Davidson is always on time. He pushes the limits and works hard," Walling said. According to Davidson, the swimmers needed motivation because the sport was so mental.

"I use it as a healthy lifestyle," Davidson said. "I hate meets; I like it as a health factor."

Outside of the health benefits, other swimmers enjoyed the competition.



"It's just the crappiest feeling, knowing you got a worse time," junior Charlie Thuente said. "I just try really hard so I beat my time."

"Winning districts really defined us as a team," Davidson said. The team won districts for the first time in Dragon history. Built on other schools, the team found strength.

Johnson was the only freshman to qualify for state. "That doesn't happen too often; we look for his leadership in the future," said Walling. According to Johnson, qualifying for state was a team thing. His teammates stood at the end of the lane and cheered him on to state.

"When new people come, everyone already knew each other so it was easier to bond," Thuente said. "There was always at least one person at the other end of the lane cheering."

This publicly-displayed teamwork came as a result of team bonding during workouts on dry land. One of the dry-land workouts was the action wall, where swimmers watched light flash and they saw how fast their reaction was. *Spread*

by Azra Feriz and Matthew Courtney

“It was a compliment (to be a freshman on varsity). I've swam all my life and I needed to work hard so I didn't want to let the team down.”

-Blake Johnson '10

Junior Soren Hirst catapults himself into the water from the starting block at the sound of the alarm. Hirst swam in the 400-yard freestyle relay along with teammates Urbandale sophomore Nick Staub, junior Jeremy Biggs, and Urbandale junior John Waldorf. They had a time of 3:39:53

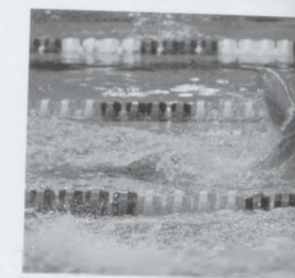
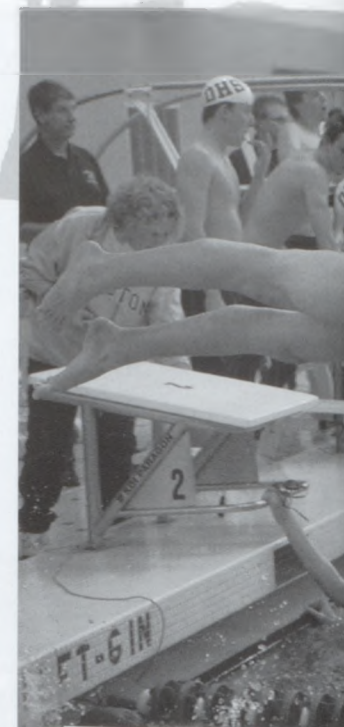


photo by Matthew Courtney

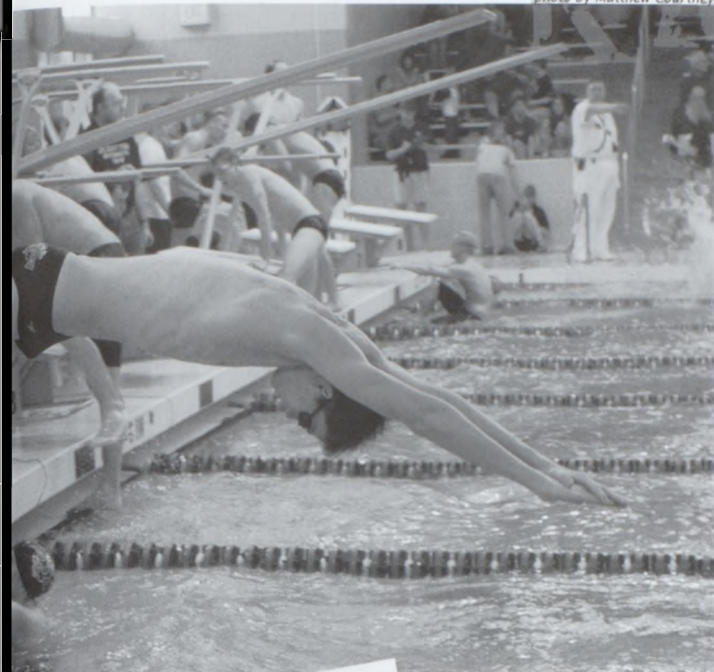
Waukeet junior Scott Herren takes a breath during the 500-yard freestyle. Herren placed second at the Johnston Invitational with a time of 5:24:95.





# Kick

photo by Matthew Courtney



Plummeting himself out the water, Urbandale sophomore Tyler Staton quickly hurries to finish his event. Staton raced in the 100-yard butterfly with a personal best time of 1:13:56.



photo by Matthew Courtney



photo by Matthew Courtney

Junior Cullen Hirst and freshman varsity swimmer Blake Johnson root on freshman Tyler Bradley as he is in the midst of a flipturn. "It makes me want to go faster (when my team cheers me on); if I am behind, I want to catch up and finish strong," Bradley said.



photo by Matthew Courtney

Waukee senior Rob Bany leaps out of the water in a breaststroke event. The team won their meet against their rival Ankeny Jan. 4, at the Summit Pool.



photo by Matthew Courtney

Junior Rex Davidson chats with his swim coaches Shari Walling and Darin Robertson and his father Brian Davidson after one of his events. Davidson placed sixth at districts in the 500-yard freestyle. "Placing at districts is a good payoff for all the hard work it takes to get there," Davidson said.

Des Moines East Dual	118-57
Roosevelt Dual	112-58
Valley Dual	75-85
Anteny Dual	118-52
Indianola Dual	108-62
Ottumwa Dual	125-45
Dowling Dual	104-66
South East Polk Dual	64-30
Ames Invitational	3ra 181
Bobcat Relays	2na 110
Johnson Invitational	1st 310
CHL Conference	1st 392
Districts	1st 273
State	19th 13

#### State Qualifiers

Nick Staub Scott Herren  
 Tim Albright John Waldorf  
 Anthony Kotke Mitch Taylor

Blate Johnson  
 Rob Barry  
 Brad Waldorf



photo by Matthew Courtney

Urbandale junior Anthony Kotke and sophomore Mitch Taylor cheer on freshman Brad Waldorf at the Johnston Invitational. The invitational was held at the Summit pool Jan. 27. Johnston won the invitational with 310 points.



photo by Matthew Courtney

Junior Cullen Hirst takes a deep breath during the 200-yard medley relay. Hirst swam the breaststroke portion of the relay along with Urbandale swimmers freshman Patrick Albright and sophomores Nick Staub and Tyler Staton; their team had a time of 1:55:11.





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# Disappointment hinders third place consolation matches

## Players Struggle to Find Competitive Drive Against Own Teammates

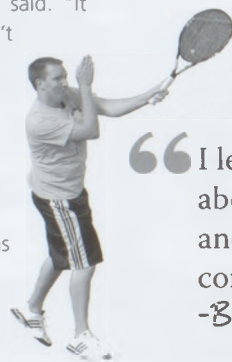
Despite their efforts, disappointment filled the hearts of the tennis team after falling short of qualifying for state during the district meet. As difficult as it was to bounce back from defeat, the doubles team, seniors Josh Kintz and Logan Koch, found themselves forced to play teammates, senior Chris Ajluni and junior Cody Gordon for the third place consolation match.

Not only were the Johnston doubles teams faced against each other, but players junior Tucker Vasey and junior Ryan Palmer competed for third place as well.

The team found it difficult to play against their friends. "It was really hard because three out of four teammates were seniors," Koch said. "I didn't want to beat them, but you got to do what you got to do."

Gordon shared Koch's opinion regarding their final match. "If I had won, I would have felt bad, but I didn't want to lose either," Gordon said. "It was kind of a lose-lose situation; you didn't want to beat your teammates."

After the opportunity of advancing to state fell out of their grasp, it was a challenge for the team to keep the consolation match in sight. "It didn't make any difference who I played," Ajluni said, "third place didn't go to state. It was hard to play my best."



Like Ajluni, Vasey felt that the consolation match did not hold as much weight as the finals did. "It was less competitive and didn't feel like a real game," Vasey said. "It was just for third and didn't mean anything."

The level of concentration put toward the match was a concern for Palmer. "The amount of focus is not as much as you should have because you are playing a friend," Palmer said.

Koch experienced a lack of attentiveness as well. "We kept losing focus because we watched other matches," Koch said. "The coaches knew we were disappointed and understood." Koch also felt that the match was more low key than other matches. "The match was laid back and comfortable," Koch said. "We knew we wouldn't make it to state, so we didn't do anything spectacular."

Although the team was disappointed with their failure to advance to state, they felt they had given their best. "I thought I played well,"

Gordon said. "I'm not mad at how I played, I'm mad at the result." *spread by Allison McGrew*

“I learned a lot from the coaches about how to act on road trips and (the team learned) not to be complete idiots at restaurants.”  
-Ben Gass '09

Senior Josh Kintz prepares to use his backhand during the third place districts doubles match. Kintz and his partner, senior Logan Koch, defeated fellow teammates senior Chris Ajluni and junior Cody Gordon.



photo by Antonio Rodriguez

Junior Ryan Palmer reaches up to serve during the meet against Idianola. Palmer's record for the season was 10-6.



photo by Allison McGrew



Junior Micheal Lunn strides to the back of the court to hit a deep ball. With senior Ben Kohles as his doubles partner, Lunn won his match 8-3.



photo by Allison McGrew



photo by Allison McGrew



photo by Allison McGrew

Concentrating on the ball, sophomore J.T. Minor gets ready to make contact. "I became a lot better at the net and waiting for the right shot," Minor said.

Junior Tucker Vasey reaches for the ball at the Urbandale meet. Vasey won his first set 6-4 and second set 7-5



photo by Allison McGrew

During warmups before his doubles match with junior Orin Xie, sophomore Jonathan Krueger receives a handful of tennis balls from his opponent. "The most memorable part of the season was when Orin and I got second place at the JV Johnston Invite," Krueger said.



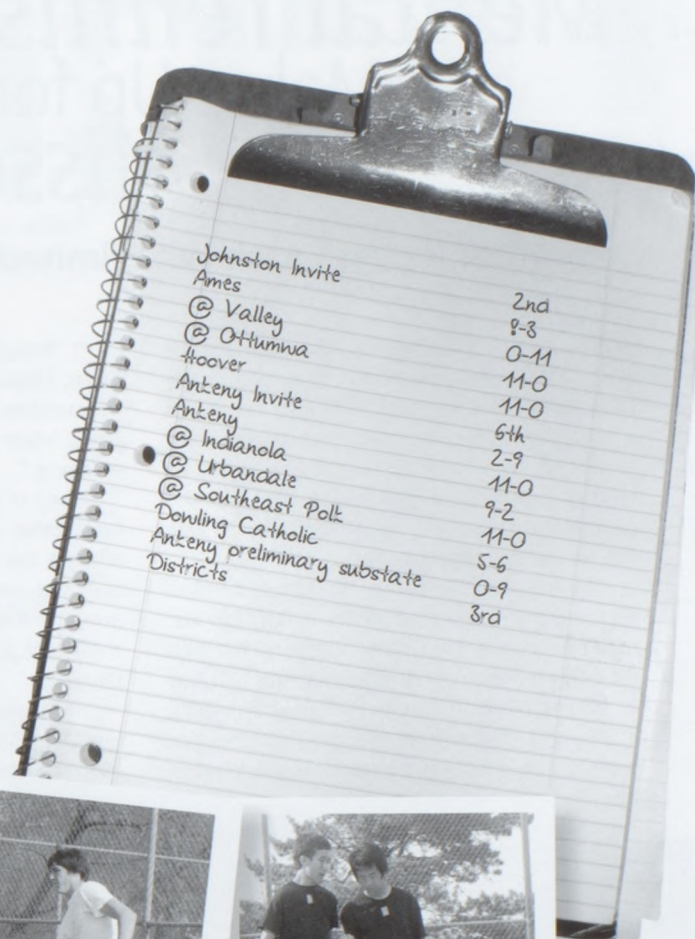
photo by Allison McGrew

Reaching down to hit the ball, junior Bryce McClure warms up before his doubles match begins. McClure and his partner, sophomore J.T. Minor, went on to win both sets 8-0.



photo by Allison McGrew

Fred Zhao and Marc Thies confer during their doubles match. "(My partner) gives me pointers on what I can do better to get me going," Thies said. "I help him by trying to get his confidence up."





# Tennis

## Mental Tennis Makes Up for Missed Practices

**Weather leaves coach with limited means of preparation**

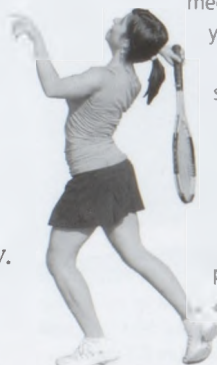
Plagued by rainstorms and other weather, the girls' tennis team waited for their opportunity to practice. The constant rain left the courts underwater, which meant that the girls were unable to play. Meets were about to start and having no form of practice, the girls would be competing unprepared. Thus coach Ben Knight was left with only one option: mental tennis.

"During mental tennis we would watch videos on strategy and talk about different situations that might come up during a meet," Knight said. "I think it allowed the team to see other strategies that they wouldn't pick up on the court." During the videos, a host, Vick, broke down different situations that appeared on the court and tried to give clues to help the players visualize the game.

The girls had a wide array of reactions to the videos. "I actually think that it helped," senior varsity player, Susan Clausen, said. "I am a visual learner, so when I did get the chance to play, I could use the techniques on the court and go back to the video if needed, even though it was cheesy."

“I started to play (tennis) four years ago. I like tennis because it challenges my mind and my athletic ability. It is a fun sport. I love playing doubles.”

-Florescia Lorenzelli '07



"I thought it was amusing," senior varsity player, Megan Browning, said. "Vick was the best. He would be running around showing us different tennis 'clues'. You have to give it to coach Knight for trying."

Many of the girls appreciated the opportunity for another alternative to just practice, day after day, on the courts. "It was something different than just running around the school," junior JV team member, Torey Robinson, said. "I guess it was a different alternative that got me thinking about the game."

The team understood that Knight had to find some way to ready them. At one point the girls were only able to play on the courts once during a span of two weeks, immediately prior to competing in a meet. "We ended up having our first meet cancelled," Knight said. "That makes it harder just to mentally prepare. You start to prepare for one meet, and then it gets cancelled, so then you have to prepare for the next one."

Although mental tennis was a new strategy to the tennis girls, it was not unsuccessful. The team took home a first place trophy from the Knoxville invite, as well as a second place trophy from the Johnston invite. In some cases, mental preparation led to physical triumph. *Spread by Cory Gagne and Leah Kron*



Jogging to make the hit, sophomore Jenny Ajluni concentrates while playing a match at Hoover. Ajluni was the top-ranked varsity player for the duration of the girls' season.



Doubles partners, junior Maggie Thilges and sophomore Lauren Rogers, play at Urbandale. "It was kind of fun to switch up doubles partners," Thilges said. "You got to see how different people play."

# serve

photo by Cory Gagne

Senior Susan Clausen strains to complete her serve. It was Clausen's fourth year on the varsity team, "I was pretty happy with the season," Clausen said. "It was really fun but it went really fast."



photo by Cory Gagne



photo by Cory Gagne



photo by Cory Gagne

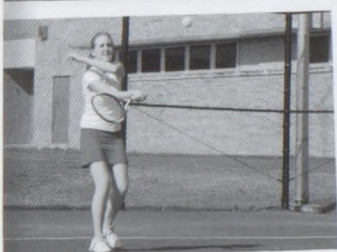


photo by Cory Gagne

Junior Rachel Lang pulls back to volley the ball at an Urbandale meet after a long-awaited start to the season. "There were a lot of meets postponed," Lang said. "So instead we did kickboxing."

Working under the pressures of the district tennis meet, junior Aleece Gustafson serves the ball. The district meet was one of only three held at the JHS courts the entire season.

Following through with her swing, freshman Megan Roth plays her individual set at Hoover. Roth was the only freshman to play on the varsity team.



# The Johnston Booster Club would like to congratulate the graduates of 2007!

Johnston Invite	2nd
@ Ames	3-9
@ Valley	3-9
Ottumwa	6-5
@ Hoover	9-2
Knoxville Invite	1st
@ Urbandale	2-9
@ Ankeny	5-6
@ Indianola	6-5
@ Dowling	2-9
Marshalltown Invite	2nd
South East Polk	11-0

Team Regionals  
Urbandale

3-6

Individual Regional  
Rachel Lang and Aleece Gustafson

4th



photo by Cory Gagne

Displaying their sportsmanship, juniors Gabbi Warrick and Leah Bole shake hands with their opponents from Hoover. "You usually shake hands before and after a match," Bole said.



photo by Cory Gagne

Senior Emily Kuster keeps her eye on the ball at a meet in Urbandale. This was Kuster's fourth and final year on the varsity tennis team. "I plan to play tennis recreationally (in college)," Kuster said.



# High hopes hindered

## 4 X 8 looks to take state; finishes fifth

As senior Connor Elmitt stepped to the line, many emotions were running through his head. "I was really nervous and anxious knowing it was the last time I would compete wearing the Johnston uniform," Elmitt said. "I was cool with starting, I just wanted to put our team in a place to win." According to Elmitt, he had not started the 4 by 8 since his junior year and the change was made for the state meet.

The coaches had their reasons for changing the line-up. "We decided Connor would be a better runner to start out," assistant track coach Pat Mattingly said, "because he likes chasing the pack and not letting the pack chase him."

Another change to the lineup was that junior Andy Unruh anchored the relay. "I was really nervous (before I ran) and I was wishing I wasn't the anchor anymore," Unruh said.

Going into the state meet, expectations and confidence were high for the relay team. According to Mattingly, the goal was to take state in the 4 by 8. "(Before they ran) I told them to go out, have fun, and run a smart race," Mattingly said.

However, when the time came to race; the goals were not met. "We went into (the 4 by 8) having really high goals and then to not meet those goals is disappointing," Unruh said.

Each relay team member had their own reason for feeling as if they had let their team down. "I was very disappointed that I couldn't quite move us into first," junior Nathan Clock said.

During the race, however, thoughts were positive. "I was thinking this is my last race," senior Jay Quick said. "I don't care what I'm feeling right now I have to give it all I got, this is my last shot."

While the team was discouraged after the race, they all found ways to support each other. "Even though we didn't get the place that we wanted we all knew that we ran as hard as we could," Clock said. "(We) left it all out there and tried to make everyone feel better about the race."

For the seniors, the end of the race was full of emotion. "It was a little sad (after the race)," Quick said. "It was a weird feeling, I knew it was the last time I would put on that uniform or hand off to one of those guys."

According to Mattingly, the seniors brought a lot to the relay team that will be missed. "(Elmitt and Quick) showed the other kids what a senior should be like on and off the track," Mattingly said. "They were humble and when success came their way, they took it well." *Spread by Sammy McConeghey*

“The best part about being a thrower was everyone else took it seriously, we got to mess around and leave early.”  
John Puffett '09



Reaching for the baton, senior Phil Evans goes to receive the hand off from senior Cory Pierce during the 1600-meter medley at the state track meet. The team ended the meet with a tenth place finish.



photo by Sammy McConeghey

Concentrating on the upcoming hurdle, senior Scott Cronin lands from his previous jump. The shuttle hurdle qualified for state and set a new school record.



photo by Sammy McConeghey

# relay

Senior Connor Elmitt anchors the 4 by 800 meter relay at the Drake Relays. "The history, the crowd, and the presence of some of the world's best athletes make the Relays incredibly unique and special," Elmitt said.



photo by Sammy McConeghey



photo by Sammy McConeghey



photo by Sammy McConeghey



photo by Sammy McConeghey

Running the 4 by 200 meter relay at the district meet, junior Andy Unruh strides to finish his leg. The Dragons finished the district meet with a third place finish.

Junior Nathan Clock runs the second leg of the 4 by 800 meter relay at Drake. The boys finished fourth overall with a time of 7:59.16.

Pacing himself, senior Nate Nuzum closely follows Valley's runner Sam Bailin. "I was always staring at the back of his (Sam's) curly head."

@Central not scored  
 @ISU not scored  
 Johnston not scored  
 @Valley fourth  
 @East third  
 @Roosevelt third  
 @Urbandale second  
 @Dake not scored  
 @Boone second  
 @conference third  
 @districts third

@state tenth

• **Dake Qualifiers**-Nathan Cloet, Connor Elmitt, Jay Quick,  
 Andy Uhrh, Brock Lutes, Phil Evans, Zach Lemaell, Mike Schultz,  
 Tyler Foster-Staveneat, Corey Pierce, Austin Strankacker

**State Qualifiers**- Jay Quick, Connor Elmitt, Nathan Cloet,  
 Andy Uhrh, Mat Dickerson, Mike Schultz, Zach Tucker, Scott  
 Cronin, Corey Pierce, Kyle Hanson, Kyle Sievers, Phil Evans

**Academic All-Conference**- Nicke Evans, Kyle Gifford,  
 Ben Jacobsen, Alex Beckl, Jared Alfred, Derel Foster, Alfred  
 Norie, Jordan Osborn, John Puffett, Drew Wilson, Ryan Alfred,  
 Nathan Cloet, Jordan Mandel, Kyle Hanson, Grant Jacobsen,  
 Reid Jewell, Andy Uhrh, Mike Schulte, Scott Cronin, Connor  
 Elmitt, Nate Nuzum, Dane Seaberg, Tyler Shannon



photo by Sammy McConeghey

Sprinting, junior Zach Larimer  
 strides toward the next obstacle  
 in front of him. Larimer ran the  
 second leg of the shuttle hurdle  
 relay at districts.



photo by Sammy McConeghey

Junior Brock Lutes sprints the 400-  
 meter dash final during the district  
 meet at Fort Dodge. "The best part of  
 the season was running at the Drake  
 Relays because of its blue track,"  
 Lutes said.





# Age-Old Record Shattered By Underclassmen

## Runners break school's best 4 X 4 time

Spring of 1982. That was the last time a 4 by 400-meter relay team had broken the school record. But on Sat., April 28, four underclassmen demolished the 25-year-old record. Freshmen Cassie Curtis and Krista Shoeman and sophomores Taylor Chesnut and Kari Queck earned their way into the archives. "It was an old record," Queck said. "We were all excited and really proud that we could beat it."

At the beginning of season, senior Kristen Strawhacker and junior Kari Dockum were members of the 4 by 400-meter relay team, but after several rained-out meets, Curtis and Shoeman replaced them. The upperclassmen were indifferent to their substitutions. "I didn't really care that the freshmen took my spot," junior Kari Dockum said. "It was kind of like they didn't even take it from me since the first and second meets were so far apart."

According to coach Chris Siewert, choosing the relay team was simply a matter of picking the girls who were doing the best job at the time. When Curtis was sick and unable to compete in the Drake Relays semifinals, Siewert chose freshman Ashley Quick for a replacement. "Ashley really

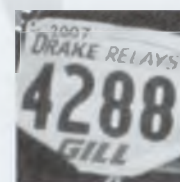
did what any true team player would do," Siewert said. "She stepped up for the team and she rose to the occasion."

Permanent members of the team were not worried about running with an alternate for semifinals. According to Chesnut and Queck, they were confident that Quick could do what she needed to do. "We had already met together before at Drake and had a really good time, so I knew she would do well," Chesnut said. "We were confident in her."

Running with an alternate did not seem to make any difference when the team went on to break the two-and-a-half decade long record. "It didn't sink in right away," Shoeman said. "The first day it was like it didn't even happen, but the second day it really hit me. It's exciting to have our name on the board." *spread by Sammantha McConeghey and Caitlin Larkin*

"My favorite part was when we cheered on our teammates while they were running. It was great that we all bonded."

Amy Krueger '09



Attempting to pass Iowa City West runner Kristi Schuette, sophomore Taylor Chesnut runs the third leg in the 4 by 400 meter relay at the Drake Relays. The girls finished fourth overall with a time of 4:01:55.



photo by Sammy McConeghey

Straining forward, sophomore Sam Jungman lands in the long jump pit at the district meet held at Fort Dodge. The Dragons finished second in the meet.

# running

photo by Sammy McConeghey



Preparing herself to jump over the next hurdle, junior Leah Embrey runs the third leg of the shuttle hurdle relay at the district meet. The relay team qualified for state where they finished in sixth place.



photo by Sammy McConeghey



photo by Sammy McConeghey

Running strong, junior Obsie Birru strides to finish the 3000 meter race at the district meet. Birru qualified for and finished fifth in the state meet. "When I found out (Patrick) Hennes was our coach this year (his first year), I was really excited," Birru said.

Senior Kristen Strawhacker sprints to the finish line in the 100 meter race at districts. "I really enjoyed running at Drake and state because it's really neat to run in the stadium and on the blue track," Strawhacker said.



photo by Sammy McConeghey

Studying in between races, senior Alexis Buchanan looks over her AP biology review booklet. "I enjoyed doing homework while I was cheering for my teammates," Buchanan said.



- Ⓢ Pella no score
- Ⓢ Ames no score
- Ⓢ Boone first
- Ⓢ Ames fifth
- Ⓢ Waukeee thira
- Ⓢ Bonduant second
- Ⓢ Ames 5th

- Ⓢ Urbandale second
- Anteny no score
- Ⓢ Marshalltown second
- Ⓢ Carlisle seventh
- Ⓢ Grinnell first
- CHL thira

State 16th

#### Drake Qualifiers

Obbie Birru, Cassie Curtis, Krista Shoeman, Taylor Chestnut, Kari Queck, Taylor Gowey, Kristen Stranhacker, Kari Doctum, Alexis Buchanan.

- Alternates Ashley Queck and Jenna Devens

#### State Qualifiers

Obbie Birru, Molly Lico, Cassie Curtis, Krista Shoeman, Taylor Chestnut, Kari Queck, Anna Lammers, Anna Belher, Alexis Buchanan, Leah Embrey, Taylor Gowey, Jenna Devens, Kristen Stranhacker, Teresa Davis, Ashley Queck, Jordan Sandquist, Erica Wernich, Alexa Guessefora, Taylor Grieve

#### Academic All State

Anna Belher, Taylor Chestnut, Cassie Curtis, Teresa Davis, Jenna Devens, Kari Doctum, Leah Embrey, Taylor Gowey, Taylor Grieve, Alexa Guessefora, Laura Hibbs, Felicia Hoover, Leisey Hyde, Sam Jungman, Molly Lico, Gabrielle Lijedahl, Grace Meiners, Florentine Noll, Meredith Pace, Leah Peterson, Amanda Philich, Veronica Roehl, Kari Ross, Jordan Sandquist, Emily Schwartz, Krista Shoeman, Kristen Stranhacker, Jenalee Williams



photo by Caitlin Larkin

Cleaning up their plates at the banquet, sophomore Sam Jungman and seniors Taylor Gowey and Anna Lammers listen to coach Chris Siewert talk with the girls and their parents about the many achievements made throughout the season.



photo by Sammy McConeghey

Trying to catch her breath, sophomore Kari Queck stands on the track after finishing her 4 by 400 at state. Queck broke the school's 4 X 4 record along with Krista Shoeman, Taylor Chestnut, and Cassie Curtis.



people

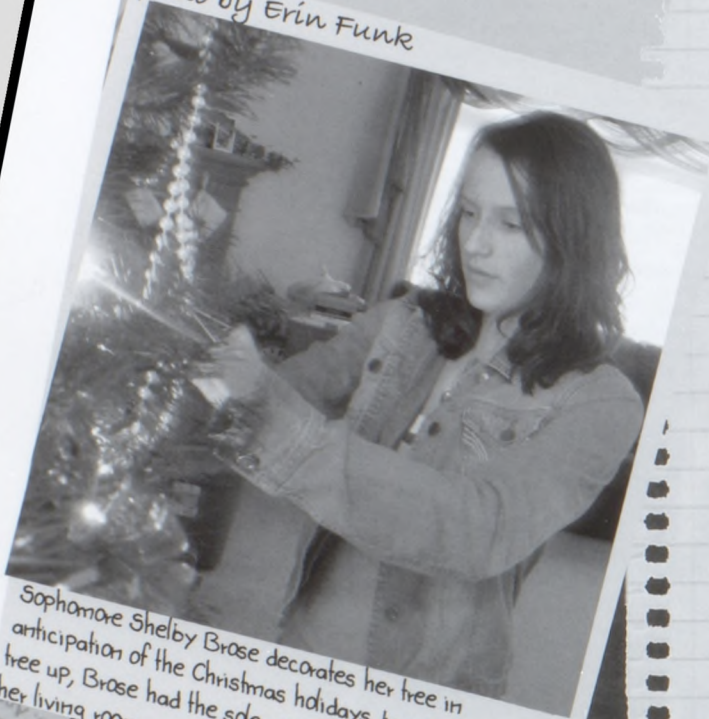
## The story of you

spread by david zorn

This is your story, the one that explains just what it was that changed you forever. That event that blew you away and forced you to begin a new chapter of your life.

You started over, traveling to new places, and experienced life-threatening events. You raced to the extreme, leaving your heart pounding and your mind craving more. You started in a new family and you told the world your darkest secrets. You followed your dreams and you lent your hands in places where children needed it most. You battled disabilities and tamed animals into becoming your passion. This was it, Johnston. This was what challenged you and changed your person forever. copy by Kiley Dewhurst

photo by Erin Funk

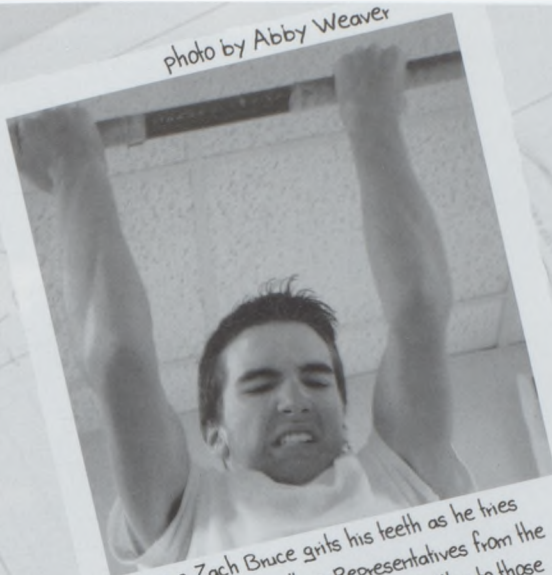


Sophomore Shelby Brose decorates her tree in anticipation of the Christmas holidays. In order to put the tree up, Brose had the sole responsibility of cleaning up her living room.

discussions | 134



photo by Abby Weaver



Sophomore Zach Bruce grits his teeth as he tries to complete another pull up. Representatives from the Marine Corps were giving out water bottles to those who could complete 20 pull ups.

photo by Dan Haight



Junior Addie Iler cries in pain during the powder puff football game as a part of the homecoming festivities. Iler injured her ankle and sustained a loss to the senior team.

# The Black &

April '07

Johnston High School Student Body

people

# The Black & White

Johnston High School Student Body

people | 135

# home to the halls

*homeschoolers invade extracurriculars*

For a majority of the population, their first experience within the public school system occurred somewhere around the age of five and included leg clinging. For sophomore Luke Finley and senior Laura Messerly, jumping into the world of competitive sports was, by most standards, an unusual place to start.

"The first couple of days were awkward," Finley, who competed in track, cross country, and basketball, said. "I didn't know anyone, and everyone had their own groups of friends. They didn't know who I was because they'd never seen me around school."

Messerly, who competed in basketball and tennis, said she couldn't remember ever being treated differently because she had friends at school, but that "there's a stereotype on homeschoolers, like they're all nerdy and stay at home and don't get involved with anything in their community," she said.

Both felt that they had gained a lot from their experiences at public school. Messerly had been involved in band since the fifth grade and said it gave her an opportunity that she didn't get at home to work with other people.

Finley said he enjoyed the competition he experienced in sports. "If there [wasn't competition], there wouldn't be anyone to challenge me, make me train harder, and perform better," Finley said, adding that he believed he had learned humility and self-discipline from his teammates and coaches.

Messerly gained her competition from a homeschooled basketball team, which she said had "less rigorous practice" and gave her more opportunity to play. She was involved in a homeschooling network production of *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe*. Finley said homeschooling gave him time to play drums in his band and participate in Boy Scouts.

Finley summed up his overall experience by recounting, "Sure, everyone had different views on homeschooling. Most people just accepted me for the way I was." *Spread by Nikki Ward*

*Laura Messerly  
and Luke Finley*



*April Adams*



*Stefan Adams*



*Taylor Adams*





*Christopher Ajluni*



*Alexander Akers*



*Katie Albers*



*TJ Anderson*



*Tyler Anderson*



*Katie Backstrom*



*Courtney Badgley*



*Quinn Bailey*



*Chase Baumgartner*



*Frank Baxter*



*Chelsey Beason*



*Ashley Bedord*



*Matthew Bengtson*



*Annette Boswick*



*Samuel Bjorholm*



*Joelle Blanchard*



*Kristina Bowers*



*Abigail Bowman*



*Ryan Brault*



*Megan Browning*



*Matthew Burch*



*Allison Burns*



*Preston Butts*



*Scott Byrd*





Bryan Baker



Erin Ballard



Brent Barz



Rachel Bassett



Brandon Beharish



Joshua Belner



Trent Belz



Megan Benson



Sarah Blume



Kodi Bockonstedt



Blake Boever



Scott Bowles



Alexis Buchanan



Sarah Buchholz



Brianna Bumpus



Jonathan Bumpus



Danny Cahill



Matthew Carlson



Michael Carter



Micah Casey







Lindsey Castellano



Joseph Cate



Alex Christensen



Kevin Christopher



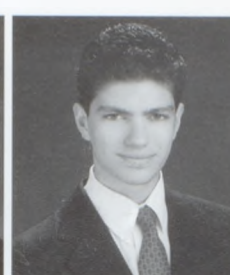
Cassy Clark



Susan Clausen



Patrick Cloyd



Eric Cluney



Lindsey Cohen



Emily Conn



Patrick Conway



Lindsey Cosgriff



Collin Coughlon



Scott Cronin



Michelle Cross



Brittany Curtis



Jacob Curtis



Amber Davidson



Abby Davis



Nicole Davis



Teresa Davis



Megan DeLanoit



Heather Dell



Maggie Denison



Austin Denny



David Derry



Kiley Dewhurst



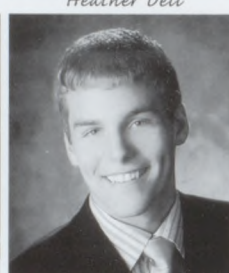
Shawn Dickerson



Ryan Dickey



Kyle Dickinson



Grant Dippold



Levi Dolieslager



Jordan Dorrian



John Dzubak



Erica Eaves



Zachary Eden



Connor Elmitt



Graham Emmerson



Daniel Fitzgerald



Tyler Foster-Stavneak



# belonging has no color

race doesn't matter to families when adopting

The only parents sophomore Marc Theis had ever known brought him into their family when he was only six months old. On the other hand, senior Phil Evans had known three sets of parents and had been living with the Evans family for about one year by the time he was a senior. The common element that made their adoptions unique from others was that each boy was of a different race than their adoptive parents.

Although Theis was born in a small village in South Korea, he never became familiar with its customs. "If I had been adopted by a family of my same race, I would know a lot more about the culture, language and Korea than I do now," Theis said. Even though Theis didn't experience life in South Korea, he didn't feel like he had missed out. Theis believed his adoptive family had brought opportunities that he would have otherwise not received such as playing sports and gaining a better education.

Unlike Theis, Evans was not used to living with one family for his whole life. Evans was first adopted in Chicago and then moved back and forth between Iowa and California twice before returning to Iowa. At first, Evans wasn't sure about another adoption because he had already been through two. "It changed because (Spence Evans') kids loved me so much and I didn't want to leave. I love it now," Evans said.

Evans experienced a big change after leaving his previous family in California to live with the Evans family. "I felt like a bank. I was always giving money away (to my old family) to put food on the table," Evans said. To provide for himself, Evans had been working three jobs before being adopted again.

Evans believed that his adoption into the Evans home was a positive experience in the end. "I didn't mind being adopted by a white family. It gave me a chance to show that black people didn't always need to live together," Evans said.

For both Evans and Theis, adoption by a white family didn't make them feel uncomfortable. "I've lived with (my family) my whole life. Nothing is really new," Theis said. Evans also was content with the atmosphere of his new family. "As long as I am myself, race doesn't come into play," Evans said. *spread by Allison McGrew and Olivia Schiefelbein*

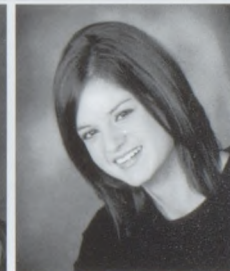
*Marc Theis  
and Phil Evans*



*Silvia Fouch*



*Larissa French*



*Tana Friesth*



*Casey Frisk*



*James Frizzell*



*Sarah Frenkel*



*Kayla Gathercole*



# modern day Bradys

*two students integrate friendships with their families*

With the climbing divorce rate and numerous remarriages, it was not uncommon to have new siblings in the family. Senior Scott Byrd faced this new chapter in his life with his good friend senior Josh Gowdy.

Byrd's father Ron, met Gowdy's mother, Deena, at a baseball game when Scott and Josh were eight. "(They started dating) after my parents were divorced and his parents were divorced," Gowdy said.

Gowdy thought it was fine when his mom started dating Ron Byrd. "I thought it was cool because he was my coach and Scott and I hung out a lot then," Gowdy said.

Byrd and Gowdy were in a lot of activities together. "We were on the same baseball team (through Johnston) and on the same hockey team (through Des Moines Youth Hockey)," Byrd said. Ron Byrd married Deena Gowdy in 1998.

"It was cool, I guess because I don't remember my mom's first wedding because I wasn't alive, so I got to see one of them," Gowdy said. According to Gowdy, it was not awkward to have a step-brother in the same grade.

Byrd, on the other hand, had a different reaction than Gowdy. "It was weird; my dad was married to someone else besides by mom," Byrd said.

Byrd and Gowdy remained friends through high school and lived together with Byrd's dad and Gowdy's mom. According to Byrd, they became more brotherly, but they still had their arguments. They also did a lot of the same activities, "We played a lot of baseball (along with) X-box and (went to) movies," Byrd said. Along with leisure activities, they shared some of the same friends. "Every friend of (Josh's) is a friend of mine," Byrd said.

*spread by Matthew Courtney*

*Scott Byrd  
and Josh Gowdy*



*Matthew Gearhart*



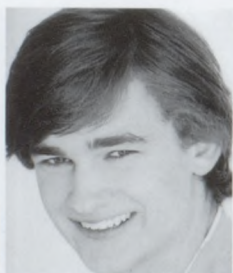
*Molly Ghem*







*Timothy Glass*



*Austin Golightly*



*Joshua Gowdy*



*Taylor Goony*





Paige Greenfield



Devon Greer



Taylor Grieve



Abigail Gumina



Alexander Guns



Traci Guinn



Daniel Haight



Daniel Hall



Paul Halterman



Carly Hammer



Ethan Hansen



Jonathan Hansen



Zachary Hansen



Joseph Harcharik



Rhianna Harm



Amanda Hatfield



Anne Hayward



Lisa Heath



Rebecca Heffling



Gregory Hefner



Jonathan Hoffman



Jordan Holcomb



Michael Hols



Felicia Hoover



Katelyn Howe



Kathryn Huen



Lance Huffine



Emily Hurm



Kelsey Hyde



Matthew Janes



Ross Jennings



Yocdanny Jimenez



Alexa Johnson



Jeremy Johnson



Josiah Johnson



Kellen Johnson



Nicholas Johnson



Samantha Johnson



Marquis Jones



Thomas Kanauss





*Logan Keenan*



*John Kennedy*



*Austin Kern*



*David Kerns*



*Elizabeth Knoll*



*Logan Koch*



*Benjamin Kohles*



*Kelsey Kovacevich*



*Alison Langston*



*William Lanning*



*Vincent Larson*



*Elizabeth Lawrence*



*Blake Lewis*



*Nathan Lockner*



*Florencia Lorenzelli Scorza*



*William Lowe*



*Sasha Manson*



*Leah Marquis*



*Kevin Marvin*



*Alison Maurer*





*John Kimball*



*Kadi Kimball*



*Joshua Kintz*



*Luke Knee*



*Kelsey Kramer*



*Bryce Kubik*



*Emily Kuster*



*Anna-liese Lammers*



*Samuel Leahy*



*Aaron Lehman*



*Chris Leslie*



*Hannah Levine*



*Amanda Lower*



*Kathryn Luksetich*



*Lindsey Mabe*



*Meredith Manning*



*Justina Mazza*



*Juliana McCoy*

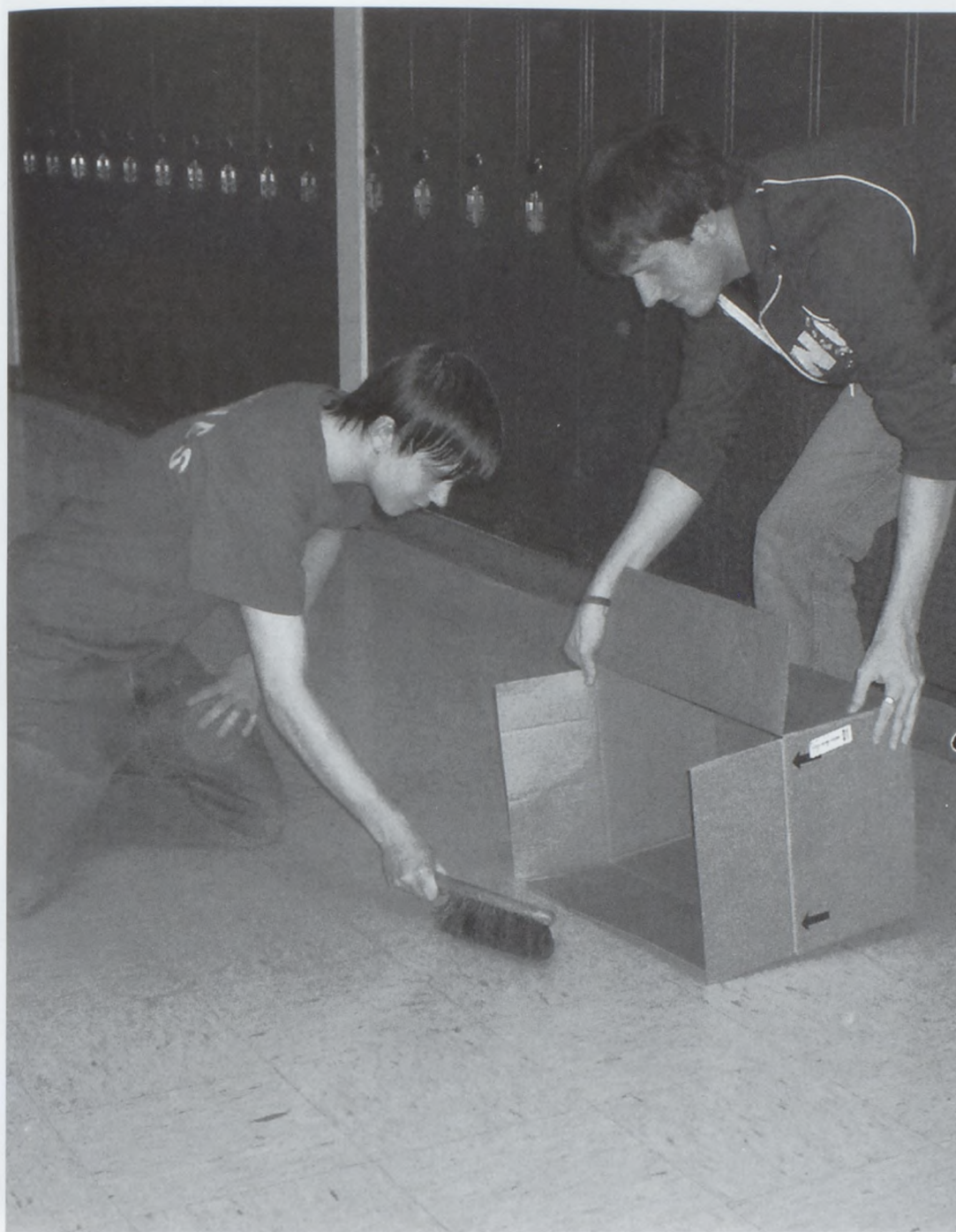


*Kyle McDowell*



*Mauro McKay*







# keepin' it in the family

*two students reveal what it's like to work for their parents*

While some teens in search of a job may have applied at several different venues in hopes of a way to earn money, senior Blake Boever and junior Chris Wilkinson looked no further than their own homes.

"My mom hired me as soon as I was legally able to start working," Boever said. "I wanted to earn money and save it and buy my own gifts for people so I asked her to give me a job. My mom owns her own cleaning business, Spectrum Technical Services. When my dad passed away, she got all of us kids involved, and now all of us run it."

Being employed by a parent contained benefits one might not have been able to attain working at another job. "I get good hours," Wilkinson said. "My dad knows what I have going (on), and I started at a higher pay than what I would get at another place." Wilkinson worked at Custom Made Boxes, a company his father owned. "(While I'm working) I take cardboard, put it through a box-cutting machine, fold it, wrap it up (and) give it to a transporting company."

As in any job, working for a relative contained its downfalls as well. "We only work three hours a night on the places I (clean); the other places are done while I'm at school," Boever said. "I want to work more, but it is hard to let me work more because then (my mom) would have to cut back someone else's hours."

According to Wilkinson, working with family was not always exciting as, say, a job where one was able to work with people one's own age. "I wish the job wasn't so boring. I work with a bunch of old guys and I wish I had someone to relate to," Wilkinson said.

Strengthening an already tight bond between Boever and his mother was the payoff in working for her. "I love working with my mom because it's a great environment. My mom and I have such a great relationship," Boever said.

Being employed by his father for two years had given Wilkinson insight and advice for those interested in pursuing a job with one's relative. "It's a good idea (to work for a family member) because they know what's going on in your life and can help you set hours. Also, you might get paid more," Wilkinson said, "(but) just because it's your parents doesn't mean you can slack off." *Spread by Sam Dearden*

*Chris Wilkinson  
and Blake Boever*





# athletics aid American e

*foreign exchange students find their place through act*

Though foreign exchange seniors Florencia Lorenzelli Scorza and Florentine Noll spent their days in the high school, what they would remember from their American experience was everything that took place outside the hallowed halls. "(One of my favorite things I did) was going to see the Iowa Hawkeye football game in Iowa City with my host family," Lorenzelli Scorza said. "Sports are much more important here. The people take more time participating and being a spectator."

Both Lorenzelli Scorza, from Uruguay, and Noll, from Germany, found sports as good means of getting to know other students. "I liked doing cross country," Noll said. "I met a lot of really nice people and enjoyed having fun with them." Lorenzelli Scorza was also involved in basketball for a week, but found her place serving as manager for the varsity girls' team and cheering in the stands during varsity boys' games.

Although sporting events were a major part of their American exposure, both Noll and Lorenzelli Scorza appreciated the other things that they experienced in America. Lorenzelli Scorza attended the Leadership Retreat in November and got the chance to see students outside of their normal realm. Noll got a sense of this as well when she participated in the homecoming tradition of Rock Around the Clock. "I liked this kind of crazy event," Noll said, "in Germany I would never had the chance to do such a thing like this."

The girls felt that they made a home very far away from home with their host families. "I have a very good relationship (with my family)," Lorenzelli Scorza said. "They help me in everything. We travel to different parts of the USA so I can learn more things about the culture." Noll was thankful to assume the role of being an older sister to her host brother, the only brother she has ever known.

The experiences Noll and Lorenzelli Scorza encountered outside of the high school were the most memorable and shaped their entire American discovery. "I'm very glad to be here. I think it is an unforgettable experience and I'm very grateful to both of my families," Lorenzelli Scorza said. *Spread by Leah Kron*

*Florencia Lorenzelli  
and Florentine Noll*

xperience  
ivities



scorza





*Mallory McKinley*



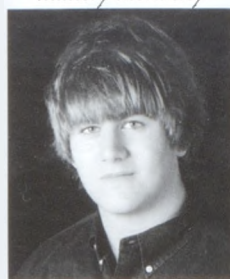
*Grace Meiners*



*Joshua Merritt*



*Laura Messerly*



*Bradley Nelson*



*Andrew Ness*



*Addison Nielsen*



*Troy Nielsen*



*Emily O'Keefe*



*Emma Oeltjenbruns*



*Matthew Ogren*



*Jordan Olson*



*Samantha Pessolano*



*Jacob Pfundheller*



*Corey Pierce*



*Christopher Pilkington*



*Ryan Randazzo*



*Casey Randel*



*Jeffrey Rasmussen*



*Eric Reiser*



*John Miller*



*Erik Mortens*



*Sarah Mueller*



*Hillary Mumma*



*Shawntel Noel*



*Andrew Nordhus*



*Nathan Nuzum*



*Shannon O'Connor*



*Jamison Osborne*



*Sarah Parks*



*Joseph Pavelka*



*John Peitzman*



*Andrew Quandt*



*Klay Queck*



*Taryn Quesnell*



*Jay Quick*



*Adam Richards*



*Topher Riddle*



*Jasmine Riley*



*Antonio Rodriguez*







*Ricardo Rodriguez*



*Emily Rooser*



*Danielle Rowen*



*Anne Ruebelke*



*Keriann Rupp*



*Joel Rydberg*



*Neal Rydberg*



*Justin Saf*



*Emeri Sams*



*Makea Sanders*



*Amy Sassatelli*



*Angela Scheafer*



*Christine Schemp*



*Kayla Schmidt*



*Rebekah Schnackel*



*Christopher Schnell*



*Nicholas Scholten*



*Sarah Schultz*



*Thomas Schweitzer*



*Andrea Sciaudone*



*Dane Seaberg*



*Emilie Seda*



*Nicholas Sedgley*



*Gabriel Sellers*



*Todd Sexton*



*Tyler Shannor*



*Michael Skeens*



*John Slinker*



*Michael Slusark*



*Brinn Smith*



*Calrissian Smith*



*Todd Sonner*



*Clayton Spiece*



*Benjamin Sprinkle*



*Eric Stodola*



*Rebecca Stoeker*



*Austin Strawhacker*



*Kristen Strawhacker*



*Thomas Stroud*



*Abbie Symonds*









# Love of The Music

*Two Band Members' Love of Band Helps Them Get To The Top*

During an interview with band teacher Patrick Kearney, junior Tim Clay summed up his leadership style by responding to Kearney's question, "What makes you an outstanding leader?" with "Some leaders lead by example, which is what I try to do. I don't scream at people when they mess up, but I do try to help as best I can," Clay said.

The interview step was the second step of try outs for drum major. Clay had wanted to be one of the four drum majors since his sophomore year. After the interview step, the only thing Clay could do was wait.

"Then came that fateful day in the band room. Seventh hour study hall. Myself, Brad Nelson, Sarah Mueller, and someone else whose name slips my mind were there when Kearney comes in and says, 'Here's what you've been waiting for and puts the results up on the board,'" Clay said. Once he saw his name posted as a drum major, "I flipped out." With a longtime goal fulfilled, he was eager for the upcoming season.

Like Clay, senior Hannah Wagner also possessed a band goal she had dreamed of accomplishing. Wagner had been playing the B flat clarinet since fifth grade with hopes of one day becoming first chair. According to Wagner, the first chair was so coveted because those occupying the position had many more opportunities for solos. Even with these aspirations of more solos and prestige, she spent her first three years of high school sitting in the second chair position.

After countless hours of practice and determination, Wagner finally accomplished her goal for her last high school band season. When she found out she was going to occupy the first chair, "I screamed and started jumping up and down. I was so excited!" Wagner was proud of her hard work. "I really had to work for it a lot by practicing and focusing on what I'm doing," she said.

Once the excitement settled, Wagner and Clay found themselves with more responsibility and a bit more pressure. "But it's a band, so you have other people there with you," Wagner said. *Spread*  
By Amanda Gabbert and Hannah Smith

*Hannah Wagner  
and Tim Clay*



# breaking the stereotypes

*two gay students explain their experiences with prejudice*

Jocks. Preps. Nerds. Freaks. These were just some of the stereotypes heard throughout the high school halls, but there was another type of stereotype plaguing a few Johnston students, including sophomore Chloe Coulter. "Years from now I know people will look back and say, 'Remember that one lesbian? I wonder where she is now,'" Coulter said. "I would rather be remembered as a scholar, achiever, and hard-worker."

Senior Josh Merritt was also openly gay after he first came out to a friend his freshman year. "It's kind of hard to say (if people treat me differently or not)," Merritt said. "I haven't known it any other way. There are people I don't talk to because (I'm gay), but that's high school. You lose touch with people."

Coulter, who was an open lesbian since seventh grade, felt that she was more closely watched and judged. "Growing up in Johnston, it's kind of a Bible belt," Coulter said. "I've had violent attacks, but I'm not a violent person so I don't act back."

Prejudice showed through in the way high school students spoke and acted among their peers. Merritt felt that his fellow students, without even realizing it, would offend entire groups of people. "People will say 'Oh my gosh, that is so gay.' It doesn't bother me too much anymore," Merritt said. "I kind of equate it to black people and that word. It's lost its significance."

Many students found themselves wanting to shed their stereotypes as jocks, preps or freaks. Coulter was no exception; she wanted to be known as more than just gay. "I'm really a neat person once you get to know me," Coulter said. "It's sad because people are so prejudiced that they will never really know me." *Spread by Cory Gagne*

*Chloe Coulter  
and Josh Merritt*









*Sarah Taylor*



*David Temple*



*Kyle Thomann*



*Sarah Timmons*



*Eric Tubbs*



*Joshua Twinn*



*Zackary Tyler*



*Brianna Upton*



*Luis Valdez*



*Brandon VanVleet*



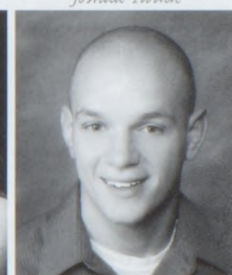
*George Vardaxis*



*Cody Vorthuet*



*Anjel Vodenik*



*Logan Volz*



*Mark Voyek*



*Andrew Waldschmitt*



*Erica Warren*



*Alicia Watorman*



*Alicia Watrous*



*Erica Weirich*



*Heather Wendel*



*Blake Wheeler*



*Lauren Whitney*



*Saliya Wijeratne*



*Dawn Wilkens*



*Heather Will*



*Cassidy Williams*



*Jenalee Williams*



*Preston Williams*



*Christopher Williamson*



*Steven Williamson*



*Rachel Winterbottom*



*Jennifer Winzenburg*



*Kimhart Wiratsorn*



*Michael Wright*



*Patrick Xu*



*Alex Yang*



*Julia Zhang*



*David Zorn*



*Hailee Zulaica*



Paul Adam  
Rachel Ague  
Ryan Alfred  
Chris Anagnost  
Erik Anderson  
Mark Anderson  
Karissa Andrews  
Rafi Ashrafi



Justine Ayers  
Stephanie Babcock  
Alisa Bahic  
Tim Banta  
Nick Bass  
Jeff Baat  
Emily Bates  
Alex Battani



Brooke Batterson  
Bret Beaderstadt  
Brittany Beane  
Hunter Beck  
Ian-Beck Cross  
James Becvar  
Brianna Benson  
Chelsea Berry



Jeremy Biggs  
Rachel Binner  
Chelsea Binnie  
Kayla Birmingham  
Obsie Birru  
Travis Bisenius  
John Bivans  
Brian Bjerk



Mitch Blanchard  
Jacie Blunt  
Ciera Bolden  
Leah Bole  
Derek Boston  
Calen Boyd  
Shavlea Bradford  
Nathan Breen



Joseph Broich  
Taylor Brown  
Travis Brown  
Ben Bruckshaw  
Taylor Bryant  
Alyssa Buckley  
Alyssa Burcham  
Katherine Burggraf





Junior Christian Schoper poses with his peers in Brazil. "It was tough to adjust to life down there because it's a completely different culture," Schoper said.



Amie Roeser, junior, gets tangled in her friends from Wisconsin. Roeser made the decision to return to Johnston to spend more time with her mom.



## Change of Territory

Moving to most people means a different neighborhood, either in the same town or one in close proximity to the last. For junior Christian Schoper, this was more than a move down the block. "One day out of the blue my mom just asked me what I thought about moving to Brazil and I thought she was joking. Once our house was sold, I just just like, ok, moving to Brazil," Schoper said.

Schoper had lived in Johnston his entire life. He realized that he would no longer be starting his high school career with his peers, but instead at the American School of Brasilia.

The Schopers moved due to a work relocation by his father's company. Adjusting to the atmosphere was difficult for Schoper. "I think it's safe to call them opposites," Schoper said, "The junior class at Johnston was bigger than my entire school grades k-12. The people you saw daily became like your brothers and sisters and teachers were your friends."

Juniors experience life outside of the Johnston Schools system

Junior Amie Roeser's move was more of a personal decision. After spending sixth grade at Johnston Middle School, Roeser made the decision to move to Green Bay, Wisconsin to live with her father. "I was only at Johnston for sixth grade (after spending elementary years in Florida), so I decided I wanted to live with my dad and spend time with his side of the family," Roeser said.

Roeser relocated to Wisconsin the summer after her sixth grade year. According to Roeser, the schools were very different. "We only had four classes at Ashwaubenon (high school), but they were an hour and a half long, compared to the eight periods a day here," Roeser said.

Both Schoper and Roeser experienced different schools in parts of the country and world. Although Schoper's was a parental decision, and Roeser's was self-made, they both agree that the decision to come back to Johnston was worth it. "It was fun to come back and still be friends with the people I was friends with in sixth grade," Roeser said. Spread by Bethany Christenson

Moving Back to Johnston



Gina Burke  
Alex Burt  
Justin Butler  
Josh Camos  
Monica Campbell  
Ryan Campbell  
Cody Carr  
Daniel Chapman

Bethany Christenson  
Jessica Christiansen  
Brittany Clark  
Hannah Clarkson  
Tim Clay  
Bradley Cleveland  
Chris Cline  
Nathan Clock



# Color Confusion

## But that's All

Souths overcome few obstacles presented from being color blind.

As a kid, junior Josh South sat down with a box full of crayons and a stack of paper, prepared to create beautiful masterpieces. However, as he started to pick out the shades he needed, he couldn't decipher what some of the pigments were and some looked the same. The crayons didn't have labels with the name of the color on it, so he had to guess at the coloration of the crayon he used.

"If the crayons, colored pencils, or markers didn't have words on them, I would have to guess what color they were, and sometimes I would end up coloring people green," Josh South said.

Josh and his brother, sophomore Josiah South, were both red-green color blind. They confused certain shades of blue and purple, green and brown, and gray and turquoise. When the Souths were younger they memorized what color certain objects were. For this reason, Josh didn't find out he was color blind until he was five or six years old.

"Since I memorized the colors, my mom didn't know (I was color blind) for a long time," Josh said.

While the South brothers were affected by being color blind, it didn't overwhelm them with complications. "(Being color blind)

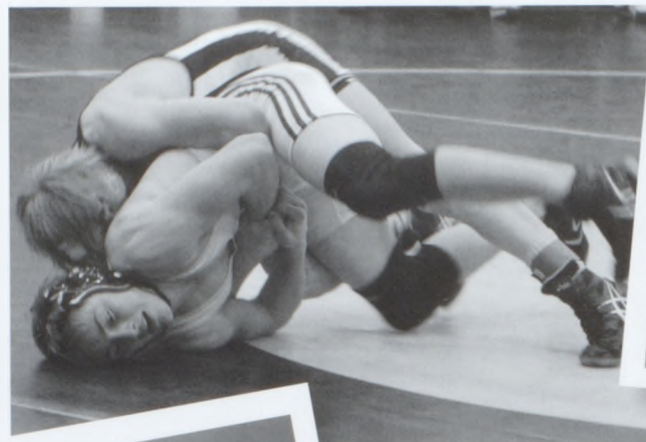
doesn't affect my everyday life," Josiah said.

Though it didn't always affect the Souths, people managed to discover the two were color blind, and tended to be surprised. "They ask what colors I can't see," Josh said. "Then they tease me and ask me what color things are to make me guess."

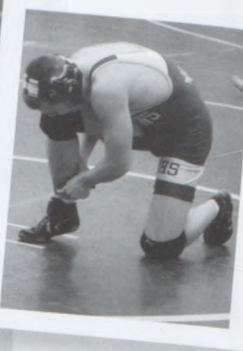
Other than enduring their friend's teasing, the Souths also had problems with deciding which anklet to wear when they wrestled. The anklets, which are used for scoring purposes, are red and green, so due to their color blindness, Josh and Josiah could not differentiate between the two. "I wait until the other (wrestler) goes out on the mat and I pick up the anklet that is left," Josiah said.

Another complication that arose wasn't easily noticed by the South brothers, and their mother had to inform them of it. "I don't really notice (when my clothes don't match), but my mom tells me," Josh said.

They had to deal with the same scenarios, yet the Souths had separate styles for dealing with the ways color blindness impacted their lives. *Spread by Felicia Hoover*



Sophomore Josiah South wrestles at home wearing a green anklet. Junior Josh South straps on his anklet (below). The Souths had trouble differentiating between anklets.



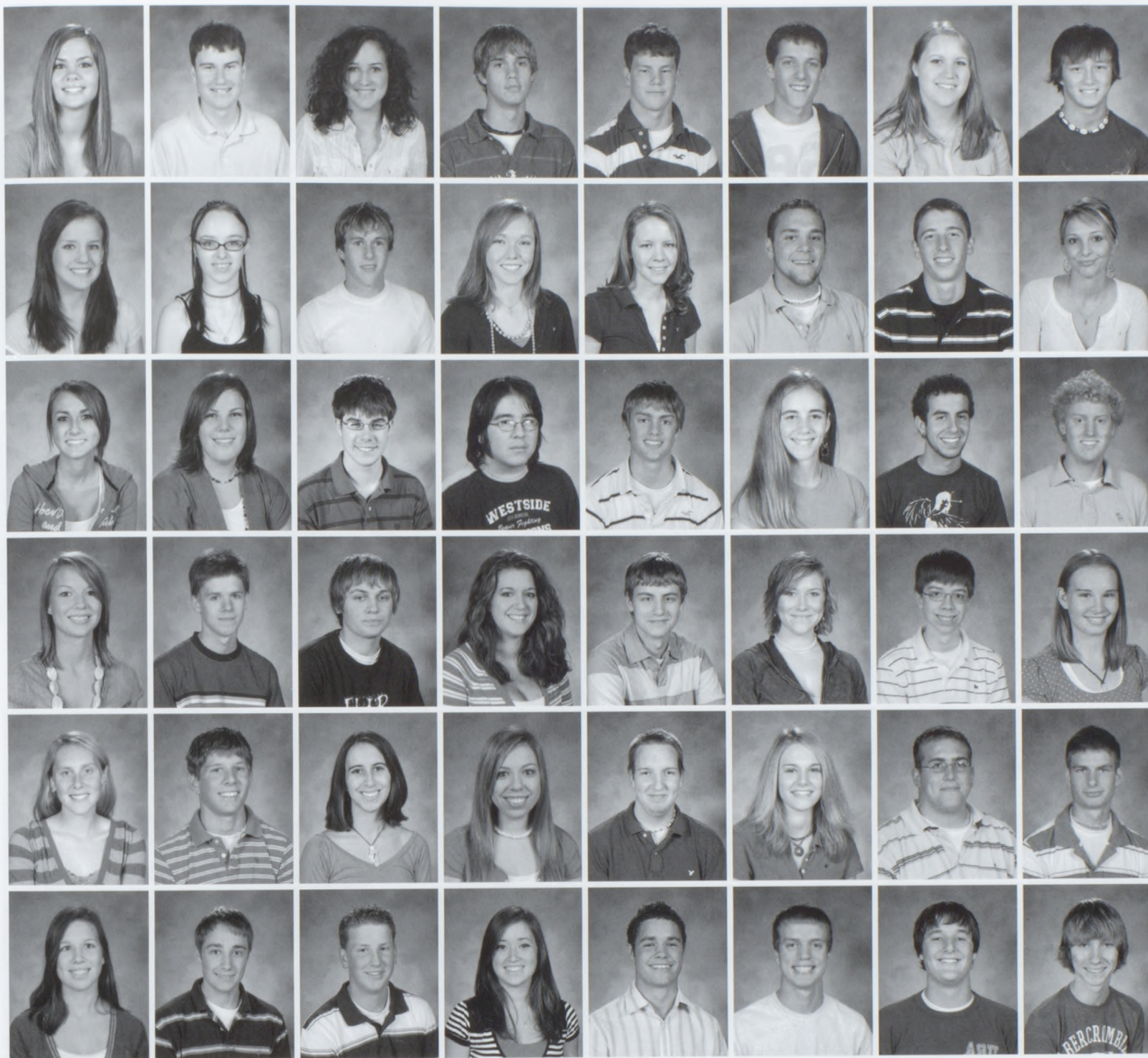
Junior Josh South searches an Ishihara plate, which is used by doctors to test for color blindness. Sophomore Josiah South colors a picture (left).

Meredith Cloyd  
Courtney Coakley  
Austin Coble  
Ryan Coffman  
Alex Conrad  
Nik Cook  
Becky Cooper  
Lauren Cordes



Juan Cordova  
David Cox  
Steven Crain  
Allie Crowe  
Paula Cruzen  
Natalie Cunningham  
Rex Davidson  
Darin Davis





Megan Davis  
Nick Davis  
Sam Dearden  
Tim Desplinter  
Nate Dewhurst  
Zach Dicken  
Kasi Dickerson  
Matt Dickerson

Kate Dickey  
Heather Dickinson  
Justin Dierks  
Kari Dockum  
Lauren Doherty  
Troy Dubay  
Chris Durand  
Fikreta Duric

Ashley Earles  
Stephanie Eckerman  
Michael Ellis  
RJ Ellsworth  
Michael Elming  
Leah Embrey  
Jonathan Emehiser  
Neil Erbes

Lexi Evans  
Joe Evans  
Shawn Fagen  
Caitlin Farrell  
Yuri Fedorov  
Madie Fiedler  
Alex Fleming  
Kassie Fortney

Liz Fuller  
Derek Furrow  
Cory Gagne  
Jessica Gambrel  
Ben Gass  
Meredith Geels  
Adam Gillaspey  
Nicholas Ginkens

Katie Githens  
Charlie Goff  
Brent Goodenow  
Cicely Gordon  
Cody Gordon  
Sam Grasso  
J.R. Gray  
Scott Greene



Kathryn Gulleen  
Aleece Gustafson  
Zach Guyer  
Trevor Haden  
Doug Haeefe  
Brad Halbersma  
Admir Hailovic  
Jamison Haller



Sam Han  
Jordan Handel  
Megan Hankins  
Mekenzie Hans  
Kyle Hanson  
Ray Hanysh  
Ryan Harm  
Austin Hartsook



Nermina Hasancevic  
Danny Heldt  
Nathan Heller  
David Hellmer  
Luke Helscher  
Audrey Henning  
Jake Highfill  
Laura Hilby



Chris Hill  
Nick Hinkle  
Cullen Hirst  
Soren Hirst  
Nicholas Hocker  
Scott Hofmann  
Johnathan Holt  
Drew Houpp



Mitchell Hoyt  
Dani Hudson  
Ally Hughes  
Andy Hummel  
Nick Hunsberger  
Jimmy Huynh  
Addie Iler  
Katelyn Ingersoll



Sayli Ites  
Brad Ivy  
Grant Jacobson  
Reid Jewell  
Jacob Johanik  
Brady Johnson  
Josiah Johnson  
Dominique Jones





On the corner of NW 142 St. in Grimes, skid marks are visible. The skid marks were left from DCG student Bryce Boston's car, which junior Rachel Spurgin was riding in when she witnessed an accident.

# Stressful Situation *scares student*

Spurgin involved in an accident with cross country runner

Car accidents involving high school students were an everyday occurrence, but for some, those accidents became both life threatening and life changing. Junior Rachel Spurgin learned the effects of dangerous car accidents firsthand on an early dismissal Sept. 21 of 2006. Riding with Bryce Boston of Dallas Center Grimes, Spurgin witnessed as the car struck a cross country runner on the side of the road.

"Bryce and I were dropping off a friend at his cross country practice," Spurgin said. "Once it looked like they were out of the way, Bryce started to accelerate. We ended up clipping one of the kids' bikes and he went flying in the air and hit his shoulder on the windshield and then landed on the side of the road."

On the day of her testimony, Spurgin claimed she was very shaken up and her first concern was for the freshman who was hit and how badly he was hurt. "The boy was knocked out for a little bit, and he was bleeding from his shoulder," Spurgin said. "It was the first car accident I was involved in, so it was definitely very scary."

The courtroom was not what Spurgin

had expected. She described the room as being much smaller than the courtrooms on television. According to Spurgin, her experience on the witness stand was very stressful. "(It was) overwhelming because the way (the prosecutor) worded the questions made it sound like Bryce was intentionally hitting the kid," she said. "It was also stressful because on most of the questions, especially the ones that made Bryce look bad, were either yes or no, and if you tried to explain (the prosecutor) would cut you off and say 'yes or no please.'"

In situations as scary as these, a person's friends and family played an important role. Spurgin had an immediate support system following the accident. "I had been hanging out at (junior) Alle Moffitt's house," she said. "When I called her and told her we got in an accident she told her mom and her mom, Alle, (junior) Molly Larson and (junior) Soren Hirst all drove to the accident site." In all the commotion, Spurgin was very grateful to have such a strong support system because she was overwhelmed by the situation. "I was very grateful because I had no one I knew there and I wasn't sure I could talk to Bryce," Spurgin said. *Spread by Abby Weaver and Kiley Dewhurst*

*Life Threatening Accident*



Above, Gatorade and water bottles litter the side of the road at the accident site. Right, Spurgin drives through the high school parking lot.



Sally Jones  
Ally Joslin  
Megan Junge  
Danny Just  
Lauren Kacere  
Hana Kajtazovic  
Joey Kanauss  
Zlatko Kantarevic

Alex Kem  
Zach Kendall  
Linsley Kiesling  
Hannah Kimrey  
Colleen Kinsey  
Ivan Klaric  
Alex Klopfenstein  
Carson Kness



# Offering time helps relationships thrive

Close companionships formed with those who students came to meet

As the van turned onto the gravel road, the last traces of civilization disappeared behind, junior Hannah Clarkson made her way toward Immanuel Mission in Sweetwater, Arizona, in June 2006. From June 9-18, Clarkson spent days at the Mission doing physical labor in the daytime, and at night people would split into groups, sharing their faith with the Navajo people who lived near the Mission.

During one of the nightly visitations, Clarkson impacted the life of one child. "(In Arizona,) there was this little boy named Dillion," Clarkson said. She met Dillion at the Mission the previous year.

"He liked Spiderman, so I would play Spiderman with him. The second day (we went out to the families nearby) he wasn't there (because of transportation problems) and I was really sad," Clarkson said. "The next day we pulled up and as soon as I had gotten out of the van he jumped into my arms and said 'I love you, you're my best friend.' (That) shows that you can make a difference in their lives, that they don't forget about you."

Sophomore Kelsey Smith, a volunteer for the Juvenile Diabetes Walk, had a similar impact on a child. Smith had been volunteering for

the Juvenile Diabetes Walk held downtown Des Moines since she was five, one year after she was diagnosed with the disease.

"(With diabetes) you wake up in the morning, and have to count your carbs, you have to give yourself (around) 10 shots a day, its a lot more to deal with," Smith said.

The walk was a fundraiser to earn money for diabetes research. Held yearly the first Saturday in March, Smith spent her time hair coloring, painting faces and placing tattoos on kids who came to the event.

"(One year) when I was around 12, there was a kid who (looked about) three, he was really upset so we gave him a heart tattoo to try and make him feel better," Smith said. "The heart tattoo seemed to be all he wanted."

As the chairleader of entertainment, Smith had many responsibilities. "I (had) to organize all the entertainers: the tae kwon do (people), the dancers, the cheerleaders, the bands," Smith said. "They all donate their time to raise money. Without (people) volunteering, there would be no (hope for) a cure." *Spread by Sam Dearden.*



At left, Kelsey Smith paints sophomore Shaun Miller's arm at the Juvenile Diabetes Walk. At right, Smith colors a child's hair who came to the Walk.



Left, Hannah Clarkson recalls memories by looking at photos from the mission trip. Right, Clarkson spends time with Dillion, a child she befriended on the trip.



John Kraber  
Shayla Krause  
Leah Kron  
Kate Kucera  
Chelsea Kumbura  
Kass Kunze  
Phap Lam  
Ariel Landwehr



Rachel Lang  
Tara Lappin  
Zach Larimer  
Caitlin Larkin  
Danny Larson  
Molly Larson  
Thomas Lashier  
Rem Lawyer







Ryan Lay  
Stuart Leahy  
Eric Lekwa  
Stroh Leslie  
Isabelle Leysens  
Jessica Light  
Nick Ligouri  
Colby Lindsey

Brian Lippincott  
Kyle Lloyd  
Tyler Lohr  
Matt Lowder  
Lauren Lund  
Ciera Lundgren  
Michael Lunn  
Brock Lutes

Muamer Malic  
Cason Martelle  
Ryan McCauley  
Josh McClain  
Bryce McClure  
Chelsea McCombs  
Sammy McConeghey  
Kory McCracken

Allison McGrew  
Jack McIlhon  
Mandy McWherter  
Caressa Merideth  
Courtney Miller  
Michael Minton  
Alle Moffitt  
Mirza Muhamedagic

Brittany Muhr  
Benjamin Mulaosmanovic  
Heather Muscovitz  
Kaitlyn O'Toole  
Eric Olgiun  
Steven Ostiguy  
Matthew Palmer  
Ryan Palmer

Alyssa Patten  
Phillip Patten  
Amy Phillips  
Austin Pierce  
Ky Pietz  
Carli Pike  
Renee Pike  
Stiven Pineda



Dustin Pirie  
Kory Plagge  
Jesse Poor Thunder  
Jenny Pray  
Emily Prendergast  
Lauren Proffitt  
Corey Ramsey  
Haley Ramsey



Rick Rebouche  
Rebekah Reece  
Derek Reicks  
Jacob Richards  
Jay Riehm  
Alyssa Rios  
Torey Robinson  
Scott Roese



Amie Roeser  
John Rong  
Veronica Roshek  
Erica Russell  
Meri Russell  
Ellie Sams  
Michael Sandblom  
Paige Sanders



Kyle Schares  
Matt Schillinger  
Jenna Schissel  
Max Schnittker  
Ben Schnurr  
Michele Schoop  
Nicole Schoop  
Christian Schoper



Mike Schultz  
Benjamin Scieszinski  
Phillip Shaw  
Patrick Shockey  
Emily Shoeman  
Eric Siegfried  
Kyle Sievers  
Danny Sigmund  
Jennifer Simpson



Jennifer Simpson  
Anei Sinanovic  
Sanin Sinanovic  
Jordain Skarphol  
Amber Smith  
Andrew Smith  
Hannah Smith  
Jesse Smith





Ines Kajtazovic holds up a Bosnian flag that hangs from the mirror of her car. The flag translated to "I love Bosnia and Herzegovina."



# Leaving Home Behind

Two juniors share the experience of departing their home countries

Moving from a war torn country to a land of freedom and opportunity may sound like a simple decision to make. Even though juniors Ines Kajtazovic and Ben Mulaosmanovic were both very young when they left their home countries of Bosnia and Germany, they easily recalled the difficulties that they and their families faced in moving to the United States. Mulaosmanovic was two when he left Bosnia because of war and seven when he left Germany after being a refugee. "We had to leave all our family behind. My parents had never been that far away from family before," Mulaosmanovic said. Kajtazovic also felt that leaving family was a downfall to moving. "Even though I don't remember a lot (about Bosnia), I still wish that at times I had stayed there and was with my family," Kajtazovic said.

Kajtazovic, who was five when she left Bosnia, remembered the family business that they left. "My dad owned a bar in Bosnia and it was hard for him to give it up, but he opened a new one here in Beaverdale," Kajtazovic said.

Both faced the challenge of learning a new language and adjusting to a new lifestyle. "I went to places I had never seen before like a

grocery store and clothing store. It was different because in the U.S. everything came in packages," Kajtazovic said.

Kajtazovic began attending school and learned English when she was five years old. "I can still speak Bosnian, but I know more English now than Bosnian," Kajtazovic said.

Mulaosmanovic recalled his experience when first coming to the United States. "I had to take a test to get into school and ended up skipping second grade. (In the test) I had to write a story, and I wrote about 'The Little Boy Who Cried Wolf,'" Mulaosmanovic said.

The decision to move had bettered their families' lives compared to what they left behind. "(In Germany) my parents had really crappy jobs even though they had college degrees. My dad had to be a construction worker," Mulaosmanovic said. In Iowa, Mulaosmanovic's dad worked at Pioneer, and his mom was a paralegal.

Kajtazovic was glad to leave the difficult aspects of Bosnia behind as well. "(In Bosnia) I couldn't go anywhere because we didn't have a car. Instead, we would walk to markets and peoples' houses. I didn't know what would happen because there was war at the time," Kajtazovic said.

Despite the changes that occurred when moving, both students believed that coming to the United States was a positive experience in the end. *spread by Allison McGrew*

Moving to America

Ben Mulaosmanovic reads a Bosnian history book that he received from his mom while in Germany. As part of a Bosnian tradition, a glass heart (above) contains Mulaosmanovic's first teeth, hair from his first haircut and a page out of the Quran in a golden box.



Leann Smoldt-Saenz  
Josh South  
Justin Sparland  
Taylor Spartz  
Josh Sprinkle  
Rachel Spurgin  
Rachel Stanley  
Jarrod Steen

Julia Steggerda  
Lauren Stensrud  
Robert Stewart  
Naiyana Stiles  
Brianna Stone  
Evan Stone  
James Stone  
Molly Suddeth



# The more the merrier

Two students' real life accounts of having large families

## Large families

Junior Jacob Vander Ploeg felt like a chauffeur: he was constantly shuttling his four younger siblings from place to place. "Every time my siblings have to get somewhere I'm the one who has to give them a ride," Vander Ploeg said.

Junior Emily Bates felt like a nanny: she found herself stuck at home watching her two younger siblings, wanting to go out on Friday nights while she watched her 14-year-old sister, Angela go out. Both Vander Ploeg and Bates had large families, Bates with five siblings and Vander Ploeg with six.

While Vander Ploeg felt that his siblings were sometimes a hassle, junior Emily Bates looked at her large family as a blessing, "It's nice because I always have someone there to talk to," Bates said.

Bates, who had four blood related siblings and one half brother, was the third of five siblings. "I get along with my two older brothers very well," Bates said, "but my sister (Angela, 14) and I fight all the time, whether it's if she's taking forever in the bathroom or wearing my clothes."

Although there were many complications, such as babysitting or laundry, Bates felt she has developed a laid back personality from it.

"I'm a people person," Bates said. "Having a lot of siblings has made me relaxed and taught me patience."

Jacob Vander Ploeg was no stranger to company. He was one of seven Vander Ploeg children. "I can never do anything by myself," Vander Ploeg said. "If I want to do something I have to be willing to do it with my siblings."

Even though his siblings would sometimes put a damper on his plans, Vander Ploeg admitted it wasn't that bad. "My siblings are really easy to get along with," Vander Ploeg said. "We can have a lot of fun. We're really different, but we still get along."

While many complained about siblings, those who had multiple did not seem to mind as much. "It'd be interesting to have no siblings, but I would miss them way too much," Bates said. Larger families also seemed to bring less conflict. "We might get into a fight every once in a while, but it's never too serious," Vander Ploeg said. "We all love each other." *Spread by Bethany Renee Christenson*

Evan Summa  
Adam Summitt  
Alex Swanson  
Jill Swoyer  
John Tayloe  
Cory Taylor  
Zack Teel  
Brandon Teadell



Maggie Thilges  
Clayton Thomas  
Adam Thompson  
Charlie Thuenta  
Josh Timmons  
Leslie Tinnemeier  
Erin Topper  
Lindsey Tosch



Jacob, third from the left, poses with his family in front of the fireplace in their living room. The Vander Ploeg children consist of Laura Beth, Emily, Jacob, Ben, Zach, Natalie and Olivia.



The Bates family sits in the car waiting to leave on a family vacation. The Bates children are Tim, Frank, Emily, Angela, Everett and Ellie.







Mike Traxel  
 Almir Trnjanin  
 Zachary Tucker  
 Alyssa Turnquist  
 Andrew Unruh  
 Maricelly Valencia  
 Tyler VanderLeest  
 Jacob Vander Ploeg

Jordan Van Essen  
 Tucker Vasey  
 Heath Verhasselt  
 Bailey Vidmar  
 Jennifer Villegas  
 Holly VonFumetti  
 Nathan VonFumetti  
 Carlos Wahl

Jared Walahoski  
 Michelle Wallace  
 Nicolette Ward  
 Leslie Ware  
 Hunter Warne  
 Austin Warren  
 Gabbi Warrick  
 Abby Weaver

Scott Weiss  
 Tyler Wengert  
 Ian White  
 Jenner White  
 Chris Wilkinson  
 Kevin Willis  
 Jenna Willson  
 Jordan Wilson

Nickolas Wintermote  
 Kyle Wisecup  
 Trista Woody  
 Derek Wright  
 Trey Wright  
 Orin Xie  
 Lee Yocum  
 Andrew Young

Logan Young  
 Taylor Young  
 David Zhang  
 Cody Zoss

*sophomores*  
 Bruce Agurries  
 Jenny Ajluni

Christina Aldrich  
Courtney Aldridge  
Jared Alfred  
Trent Allen  
Sabrina Allison  
Justin Amick  
Bree Amos  
William Avery, Jr.



Brennan Ayres  
Adam Badgley  
Almin Bahtagic  
Joseph Barber  
J.C. Baumgartner  
Amra Beganovic  
Azra Beganovic  
Nedzad Beganovic



Leah Belknap  
Kendra Belz  
Chris Bennett  
Kovin Benziger  
Jordan Berger  
Heidi Bibler  
Ryan Birmingham  
Abigail Bisenius



Chelsea Bisenius  
Cara Blackford  
Alison Blakely  
Sarah Blank  
Brandon Blaylock  
Katie Bonney  
Aaron Booth  
Kelsey Bowen



Chris Bracelin  
Ben Brandegard  
Maxwell Bratrud  
Matthew Brault  
Brett Brones  
Justin Brooks  
Shelby Brose  
Ashley Brown



Linda Brown  
Zachary Bruce  
Zach Buckley  
Sarah Buller  
Matthew Bunting  
LaRoy Burke  
Jordan Bussanmas  
Joel Butitta









Left, senior Taylor Grieve practices jumps with her horse. At right, Grieve poses with her horse for her senior picture.



# Riding Love *begins early*

Two students' passion for sport continues

Although senior Taylor Grieve and junior Ryan Palmer both grew up in the suburban town of Urbandale, they found their niche far away from the cul-de-sac. They instead discovered a love for horseback riding in elementary school that changed their lives.

"I played soccer (when I was younger)," Grieve said, "but I looked forward to riding more because I didn't get to do it as often, and it was more of a privilege." Once just a privilege, riding became a way for Grieve and Palmer to relieve stress. "(Riding) is just relaxing because you're not in a stressful place like school and you can just relax," Grieve said.

Their relief and relaxation did not come immediately. It required a little demanding of respect. "(Riding) can be (fun) if your horse isn't going to throw you off that day," Palmer said. "When your horse respects you and is willing to do whatever you want, (riding) is more enjoyable."

Riding was anything but relaxing during Palmer's first encounter with the sport. "I used to hate horses. When I decided to finally get on a horse, I was terrified," Palmer said. "I felt (like) I was going to die. The whole ride seemed like a death wish. I couldn't get that horse to do anything I wanted. I wanted to get off."

After five years, Palmer understood more of why his horse wouldn't do what he was told to. "(Horses) can sense fear in people and will often be scared themselves or take advantage of you," Palmer said.

Grieve's first experience, however, was vastly different from Palmer's. On a rainy day in second grade, Grieve's girl scout troop went horseback riding. "I was really excited. I was the first group to ride (and) I rode an old brown and white paint mare named Missy. I wasn't scared at all," Grieve said. Ten years later, Grieve still had a passion for horses. "Horses are kind of a sickness; you're born with it and it never goes away," Grieve said.

*Spread by Sammy McConeghey*

*Horseback riding*



Left, junior Ryan Palmer enjoys some relaxation time with his horse. Right, Palmer stands with his horse, Golden Boy.



Carole Byrd  
Shelbie Caldwell  
Tiffany Camp  
Austin Carlisle  
Spencer Cartwright  
Kelsey Cashman  
Cody Catron  
Meanz Chan



Bryan Chance  
Shaoai Chen  
Taylor Chesnut  
Alyssa Christensen  
Kathleen Christiansen  
Hailey Christianson  
Hope Christopher  
Jacob Clabaugh



# Small Siblings

## Big Gap

New brother and sister have huge age difference with the oldest kid

When junior Veronica Roshek and sophomore Nels Engblom were in middle school, they both received news that neither of them were expecting. "My parents called (my brothers and me) into the living room," Roshek said, "and said 'Hey, guess what? We're having a baby.'" Roshek was surprised about the news and thought they were kidding at first. When Engblom got the news, he wanted a boy, so he would have someone to hang out with. "Being 10, I didn't like girls," Engblom said.

When Engblom's new brother was born, it was also the day of Engblom's other brother Luke's birthday. It was more than a birthday celebration, but a welcome party as well. When Engblom woke up, he was greeted by his grandma telling him his parents were at the hospital and his new brother would be coming soon.

Engblom's new brother, Paul, was born six weeks early. Paul spent a lot of time at the hospital. He was held in a glass case and had to be given oxygen. "We couldn't touch him and we couldn't hold him," Engblom said. "All we could do was look at him."

The first time Roshek saw her little sister was when it became a reality for her. "When I held her I realized it was real," Roshek said. Roshek realized there was a 14 year age

difference between her and her sister.

Babysitting was something common Roshek and Engblom both experienced. "(My sister) gets into everything," Roshek said. On Valentine's Day, Roshek found her sister eating her box of chocolates. "Babysitting is a job all the time," Roshek said.

Sometimes life would stop for the newborn. When Paul came inside his house and was unable to find his Spiderman slippers it wreaked havoc for the house. "The whole family stopped what they were doing just to find his Spiderman slippers," Engblom said.

Plans would change at the last minute because someone would have to stay home with the newborn. For Engblom, it was fun watching his brother. "When you're with Paul there is never a dull moment," Engblom said. "Paul repeats everything (his) other brothers say. He's the energizer bunny."

With a big age difference, people assume that the newborn might belong to the oldest sibling. While shopping with her sister at the grocery store, Roshek was approached by strangers telling her how cute her daughter is. "It's kind of scary that I'm old enough to have a kid," Roshek said. "I make sure I'm not with my sister by myself."

*Spread by Ciera Lundgren*

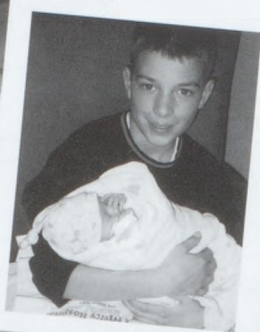
DJ Cobia  
Jared Colvin  
Daniel Conn  
Hunter Connelly  
Alyssa Cook  
Ryan Coomes  
Taylor Coughlin  
Makayla Coulson



Chloe Coulter  
Matthew Courtney  
Alexandria Crahan  
Natalie Cresta  
Dylan Cue  
Cody Dacken  
Derek Danielson  
Brittany Deal



Below junior Nels Enblom holds his new brother Paul after he was born. Paul was born six weeks early and had to be kept in a glass case preventing Enblom and his other brothers to make contact with him. Left picture Enblom and Paul as a healthy kid.



Above junior Veronica Roshek and sister Shae play softball in their livingroom. Left Roshek reads *Bluebirds Nest* to Shae.









Alexa Despenas  
Emira Deumic  
Charles Dick  
Jimmy Dick  
Mindy Dickerson  
Andrea Dingman  
Nemanja Djuric  
Azjia Doyle

Malcolm Doyle  
Kerri Dreibelbeis  
Jessie Dubas  
Renee Durbala  
Zerina Duric  
Michael Eddinger  
Tyler Eden  
Jake Eggers

Brooke Egly  
Ashley Elliott  
Breanna Ellis  
Charles Ellsworth  
Hannah Emmerson  
Nels Engblom  
Sarah Engstrom  
Mike Faley Jr.

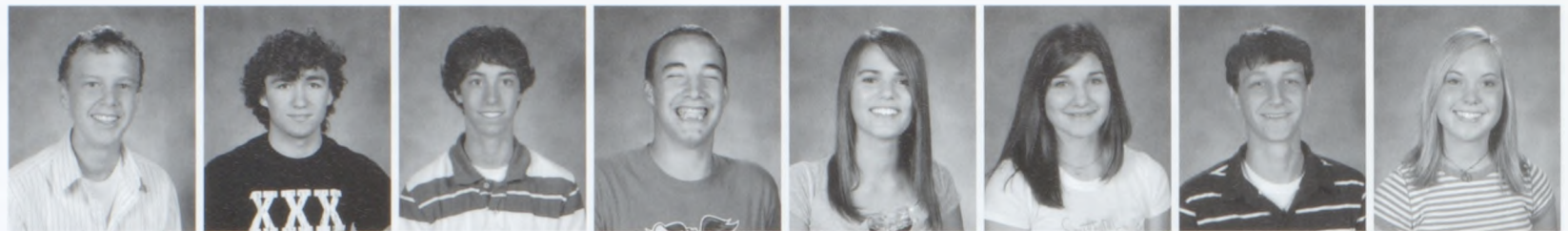
Niki Feaster  
Tessa Fenimore  
Steph Ferguson  
Dustin Fish  
Kody Fisher  
Vedrana Forcan  
Jake Forrester  
K.C. Foshe

Derek Foster  
Adam Frakes  
Jared Frank  
Lindsay Fredrickson  
Michael Friesth  
Erin Funk  
Natasha Furnish  
Amanda Gabbert

Christopher Gail  
Alex Garland  
Chris Gearhart  
Kaeleigh Gebard  
Jessica Gedden  
Austin Gehm  
Elizabeth Gesirlech  
Kaleigh Gillaspy



Cole Glenn  
 Andy Golightly  
 Matt Goodhue  
 Joey Gowdy  
 Annie Gray  
 Mickey Greene  
 Arie Greenfield  
 Alexa Gussford



Kyle Gunn-Conner  
 Christian Haas  
 T.J. Hageman  
 Caitlin Haler  
 John Hall  
 Joshua Hansen  
 Aaron Hanson  
 Chris Harney



Cameron Hart  
 Duane Hatfield  
 Morgan Haugland  
 Jake Heil  
 Adam Helgeson  
 Neal Herink  
 James Hillard  
 Tom Hinchliff



Ben Hjelmås  
 Advina Hodzic  
 Justin Hoellein  
 Molly Hoffmann  
 Christopher Hohwieler  
 Joey Honald  
 Ashley Hoogenakker  
 Brittany Huettman



Katie Hull  
 Stephanie Hunting  
 Stephanie Ivankovich  
 Hannah Janes  
 Nicole Jaschen  
 Senuri Jayatilaka  
 Austin Jensen  
 Zachary Jensen



Jenna Jergens  
 Alex Johanik  
 Amanda Johns  
 Bryce Johnson  
 Haley Johnson  
 Kelsea Johnson  
 Mariah Johnson  
 Nate Johnson





At left junior Courtney Coakley arabesques outside Veterans Memorial Auditorium. At right she poses with Allison Tack. "My costume was extremely uncomfortable and itchy," Coakley said.



Above Kacere poses in her costume for Synergy her sophomore year. Left she poses as a snowflake for her stage debut.



## A Pointe in the right direction

Young performers leap into the spotlight tapping on new doors.

4:45 a.m. and nine-year-old Courtney Coakley was out of bed donning a shimmering, red and white sequined costume of tulle and patiently waiting as her strawberry blonde hair was pulled and twisted until it formed the perfect bun. By seven in the morning, Coakley had joined her fellow Pre-Elite dancers at Adventureland Palace Theater awaiting their Lou Bega tap dance, "Papa Loves Mambo."

Taking part in an uncommon pastime, juniors Lauren Kacere and Courtney Coakley endured long rehearsals and hours of hair and make-up in anticipation of long-awaited performances at a very young age. Kacere had been performing for 14 years, while Coakley's performing days started at the age of nine.

Although their personalities differed, performing provided an out for both girls. As a little girl Coakley was typically withdrawn; the stage built her up. "I have always been a shy girl," Coakley said. "Dancing helped me gain confidence."

For Kacere, however, performing only fueled her need for attention. "When I was little I always wanted to be the center of attention," she said. "Performing became a good outlet for me. I fell in love with it!"

The rush of emotions surrounding the stage was an unforgettable experience. "Watching the others perform; it's so intimidating," Coakley said. "Then you go on stage and it's a huge rush and then it's over. It's almost like you didn't perform at all."

Making her debut as a snowflake in the

Snowball Queen, Kacere was introduced to acting at age five. "That experience wasn't the best and the director was really mean, but it had an interesting effect on me," Kacere said.

Though not a very positive experience, according to Kacere, her first performance proved to be a great discovery of her talent. "I was at those rehearsals for hours at a time; waiting for my one line, I watched the older actors," Kacere said. "I noted what they did and how they did it. It was an incredible learning experience."

Coakley recalled an impressive, yet painful experience from her 2005 performance at the Sophisticated Productions Dance Competition. "Halfway through a big production number, I did a series of turns and I felt something sharp hit my foot but I really didn't think about it until I got off stage," Coakley said. "I ended up winning Miss Overall Sophisticated Dance, which is the highest score at the competition, with one of my solos later that night, on the cut up foot." Coakley discovered she had been turning on a nail sticking out of the floor board and that was the cause of her injury.

With the lasting effects of their stage debut, both girls fell in love with the stage and extended the experience into their high school years. Kacere continued to perform throughout high school, singing for both Synergy, under the direction of Wendy Haight and Innovation, directed by Jodi White. Coakley's talents had taken her from the stage at Adventureland Palace all the way to San Antonio to attend a dance intensive on ballet, jazz, modern and pointe. *Spread* by Kiley Dewhurst

performing On-stage



T.J. Johnson  
Ryan Jones  
Alma Jovancevic  
Sam Jungman  
Allison Kane  
Laura Keller  
Justin Kightlinger  
Kayla Kightlinger



## A time for Change

Two students  
adapt to  
Johnston  
environment

As sophomore Matt Goodhue sat down at the table with his sister, Megan, he was consumed with nerves. Their parents began telling them they had a serious situation to talk about. Goodhue had no idea what it was and was expecting something bad. Then his parents said they were moving. "I didn't know what to think," Goodhue said. "I had never gone through that before."

The moving was all due to his father's job at First American Bank. When they moved to Johnston, he had to attend his father's work parties which he did not like in the beginning. "I started hanging out with kids I had met at the parties," said Goodhue. "It was a chain reaction after that."

He also met people though events. "I had to put myself out there," Goodhue said. According to him, when he moved a problem arose; he was a 40 minute trip away from his friends. "I was comfortable at my old school with my old friends," Goodhue said. "I never thought that I would have to work at making new friends, I thought I would be at Ames until I graduated."

While making new friends over the summer, Goodhue also had to think about the first day of school and the problems that came with it. "I was afraid I was going to get lost and I wasn't going to fit in," Goodhue said. "I felt like an outsider."

After a semester Goodhue had found friends and a place at Johnston. He learned things about himself, "It has helped me become more outgoing," Goodhue said. "I never thought of myself as shy until I had to be social."

Senior Krystle Wright's experience was a similar situation. Wright had moved before, also due to her father's job, in Homeland Security. Wright had lived in Midlothian, Texas, for three years. However, she had moved nine times before, and attended seven different schools. To Wright, the only thing she didn't know was where she was going.

When Wright found out that she was moving to Johnston, she also had the good and bad emotions about moving. "I was half and half about moving," Wright said.

According to Wright she wanted to stay because she finally got used to all the sports she was in, and all the friends she had made. But she was also sick of being in one spot.

With thoughts about leaving came thoughts about going to Johnston. Wright knew she would meet new people, and she did. Wright met her new friend (senior) Hannah Allison. Wright explained that when she started hanging out with Allison, she met other friends, and it was easier to make new friends after the initial meeting.

Also, like Goodhue, Wright learned a few things about high school life. "I learned not to odd yourself out and that you should try and meet new people," Wright said. She learned things about herself as well. "Now I am open to meeting new people and doing new things," Wright said. "I used to not like doing that; I was stubborn." *Spread by Erin Marie Funk*



Left, sophomore Matt Goodhue and old buddies bounce on the inflatable castle while they tell him goodbye. Below, Goodhue flips through his old yearbook to remember his middle school years.

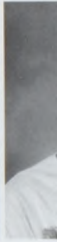


Above, senior Krystle Wright remembers her memories from Midlothian High School. Right, she poses with her far away best friend Hana, while eating out at a barbecue restaurant in Dallas.



Holly Kimball  
Leah King  
Madison Kintz  
Molli Kipp  
Teddy Kirchner  
Michael Kirkman  
Cali Kness  
Taylor Knuth









Venisa Kolubdzic  
Jesse Koughn  
Matt Kretzinger  
Jon Krueger  
Amy Kruger  
Tyler Kubik  
Korey Kunze  
Anna Kurns

Laureca Landwehr  
Spencer Lang  
Greg Larpenter  
Devyn Lenaghan  
Cody Lenz  
Dominic Leverman  
Krystal Lewis  
Tina Li

James Light  
Lin Liu  
Brittany Long  
Amy Lovejoy  
Meredith Lukeetich  
Joey Lyons  
Kelly Mackey  
Elena Malycheva

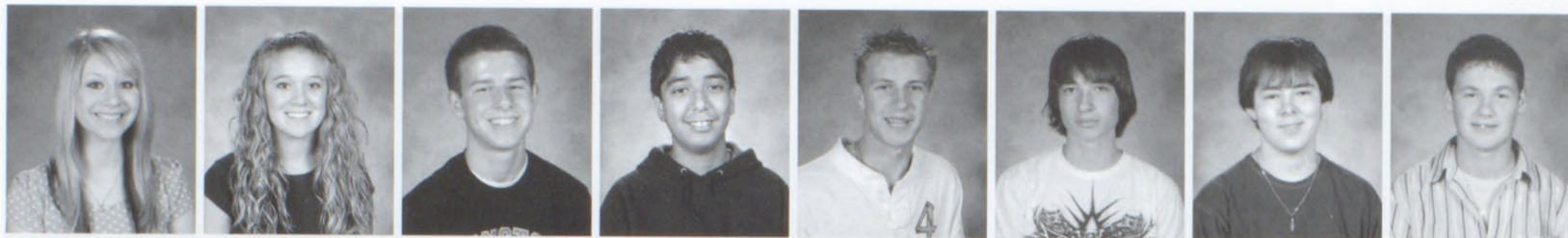
Garret Manuel  
Brittany Marshall  
Jessica Martinson  
Taylor Martz  
Kyle Mason  
Whitney Mathew  
Allyson Mayer  
Jessie McClanahan

Justin McCormick  
Tara McCulley  
Hayley McDonald  
Nate McGinley  
Leah McMillan  
Alexandra McPherran  
Brad Meek  
Molly Mellinger

Emily Meng  
Aaron Meyer  
Nicole Meyer  
Samantha Meyer  
Jerrid Michener  
Shaun Miller  
Brock Mills  
J.T. Minor



Kelsey Mitchell  
Amber Morales  
Jeremy Mullen  
Maneet Multani  
Ernad Muratovic  
Michael Murphy  
Matthew Murray  
Ajdin Nadarevic



Alan Nagel  
Abbey Nelson  
Chelsea Nelson  
Jonathan Nelson  
Laura Nelson  
Michelle Ness  
Kate Nielson  
Frank Niu



Maddie Norelius  
Alfred Norte  
Ethan Nutter  
Dain Opland  
Jordan Osborne  
Kaysha Otto  
Nick Overton  
Meredith Pace



Jen Pargulski  
Sam Parker  
Amanda Paszkiewicz  
Joseph Perkins  
Gina Pessolano  
Laressa Peters  
Leah Peterson  
Krysten Pierce



Betsy Pilkington  
Shawna Polen  
Justin Polson  
Kris Porter  
Taylor Probst  
John Puffett  
Kari Queck  
Allison Randolph

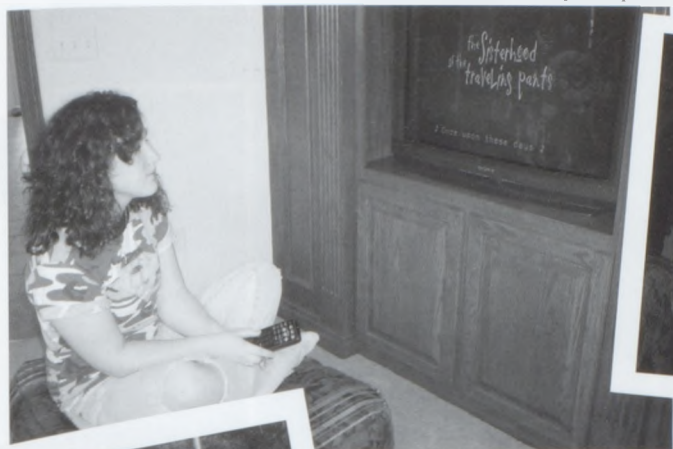


Daniel Rasmussen  
Ashley Reeser  
Rachel Rhodes  
Jessica Rice  
Kandance Robar  
Lauren Rogers  
Sierra Rons  
Jake Rosenstengle





Left, junior Sam Dearden watches *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* using closed captioning. Dearden uses this to understand the program. Right, she talks on a speaker phone



# Cover your ears, close your eyes

Dearden and Schoop experience high school differently than classmates

## Hearing impaired

When kids were little, parents would tell them to cover our ears when they didn't want us to hear something. In the case of juniors Sam Dearden and Nicole Schoop, it was a little different. "When I was younger and my parents didn't want me to know what they were talking about, they would tell me to close my eyes because I could read their lips," Dearden said.

Dearden was born three months premature and when her parents were finally able to take her home everything appeared to be normal. She was a healthy baby until the age of three. While talking to her grandparents on the phone, she no longer could hear them. She had completely lost her hearing.

From first grade until the end of her first semester sophomore year, Dearden had to wear an audio trainer — a device in which the teacher would wear a little microphone and the sound would go to a piece in her ear so she could hear more clearly.

Unlike Dearden, Schoop completely lost the hearing in only her left ear in third grade. The doctors first started to notice the problem when she was in first grade but in third grade they tried to fix it. "The doctors tried to rebuild the eardrum but they ended up making it worse," Schoop said. "I got really

upset about it; I thought people were going to treat me different, but they didn't."

Growing up, their lives were unlike many of their peers. Pep assemblies, games, and other activities were different for them. "It's really hard to understand what they are saying (during pep assemblies)," Dearden said. "Sometimes I'll just sit there and try to understand. If I can't, I'll just look at them and try to figure out what's going on."

Schoop didn't have a big problem with pep assemblies. For her, it was mostly sports. She was involved in both softball and volleyball. "When the coach is trying to get my attention, someone on the field will tell me that they are," Schoop said. "That's the time I really have to read lips because I can't hear what they are saying."

Some miscommunications led to problems because people thought Dearden couldn't hear but she could understand them. "A lot of people don't understand the difference between hearing and understanding," Dearden said. "If someone is talking, I can hear the noise coming from their mouth but I'm not able to understand what they're saying. Their words sound like a foreign language, like gibberish."

Despite the change in their lives and some miscommunications Dearden and Schoop were able to get through their school days as normal as possible and with minor setbacks. Spread By Emily Roeser



Left, junior Nicole Schoop prepares to throw the ball back to the pitcher. Right, she huddles with some of the other girls on the team.



Shelby Ryan  
Mirela Sadikovic  
Eric Sandahl  
Cody Sapp  
Colton Schaben  
Olivia Schiefelbien  
Dustin Schmidt  
Katie Schmitt



## Students Score Sport Scholarships

Athletes receive tickets to college on athletic achievements

Each year about one billion dollars in scholarships were given to high school student-athletes through the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). That meant about 126,000 student-athletes receive partial or full scholarships to school, according to usa.embassy. Senior Susan Clausen and junior Nate Dewhurst were just two of the 126,000 student-athletes to receive athletic scholarships to college.

Clausen made the important decision to go to Winona State University because she wanted to major in journalism and loved the volleyball program there. "I just loved the school. When I went to visit, it was just different," Clausen said. "The first day I was at camp, I called my mom and told her even if I didn't go to play volleyball I knew I would just love going there." When college scouts contacted Clausen, she was too young to be recruited. The scouts asked her to come to camps which allowed the coaches to learn a little more about her and gave her a chance to meet the coaches and help her decide which college was best for her. "The coaches were awesome on the phone and through e-mail as well as in person and in the coaching scene," Clausen said. "They had similar philosophies to the game that I have been surrounded with."

Dewhurst, on the other hand, had verbally committed to Denver University. During his sophomore year, he went to Culver

Academy, a military school in Indiana. He went there to improve on his hockey skills and get recognition from the college scouts. "They had better hockey, and to play for the Bucs (Des Moines Buccaneers), I had to get better," Dewhurst said. The first team to contact Dewhurst was Ohio State; they offered him a scholarship right away. He was also looked at by Colorado College and University of Denver and, according to Dewhurst, both of these schools had a really good hockey team. "They just offer the scholarship and you have to apply to the schools," Dewhurst said. "I haven't applied yet."

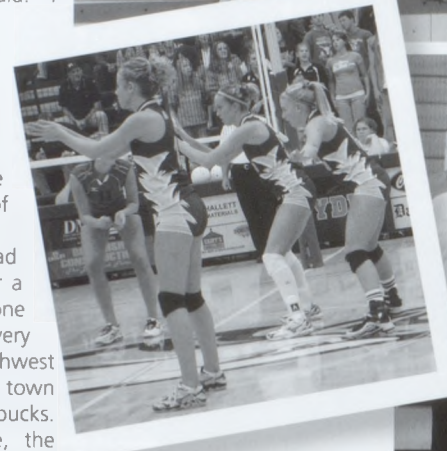
When Dewhurst finally did decide to verbally sign with a college he was unable to disclose the amount of his scholarship. Clausen had already signed with Winona State University and due to the NCAA regulations she wasn't allowed to reveal the amount of her scholarship either.

"(Winona State University) had everything I wanted when looking for a college, except a Starbucks. That was one of my requirements after visiting the very bare city of Maryville to look at Northwest Missouri State," Clausen said. "That town was so small, so I said I need a Starbucks. But no, the people were awesome, the town is cute, academics worked and so did the athletics; it was my complete package."

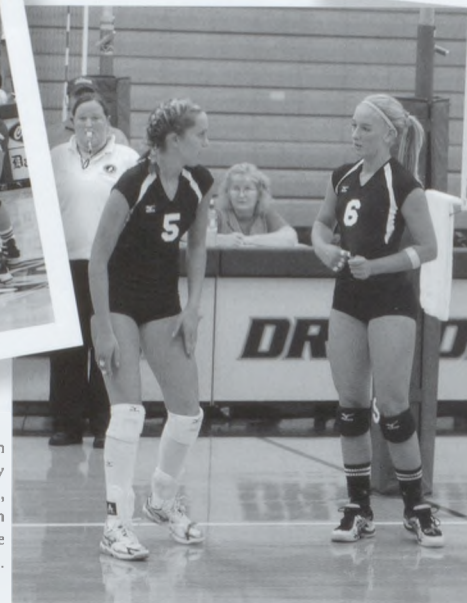
*Spread by Olivia Schiefelbein*



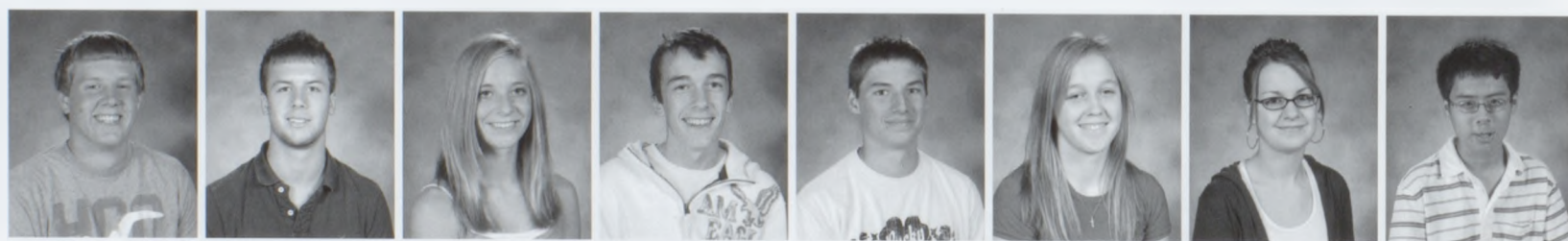
Junior Nate Dewhurst on the far left sits on the bench and watches his team. Below he looks down the ice to watch the puck, he was playing for the under 17 Team USA.



At right, senior Susan Clausen calls out a play against Ft. Dodge. Above, Clausen informs team about defenders on the opposite side of court.



- Keaton Schuck
- Aaron Schuitz
- Emily Schwartz
- Adi Sehic
- Andrew Selburg
- Colleen Shannon
- Kacei Sheridan
- Kevin Shi









Madalyn Simbro  
Christie Sitzer  
Danijel Skeledzic  
Ryan Skinner  
Mike Slavin  
Erin Smalley  
Kelsey Smith  
Nicholas Smith



Staci Smith  
Tyler Smith  
Brandon Soda  
Mark Soe  
Abby Sonner  
Christopher Soroka  
Josiah South  
Brandon Stanley



Bryn Start  
Zac Stevens  
Marc Stodola  
Scot Stodola  
Allyse Strawhacker  
Egzon Strell  
Erica Stromgren  
Kevin Sullivan



Nikki Sullivan  
Miles Summa  
Katelyn Sunde  
Zachary Swallow  
Sammie Sweeney  
Maria Taylor  
Matthew Temple  
Anthony Terronez



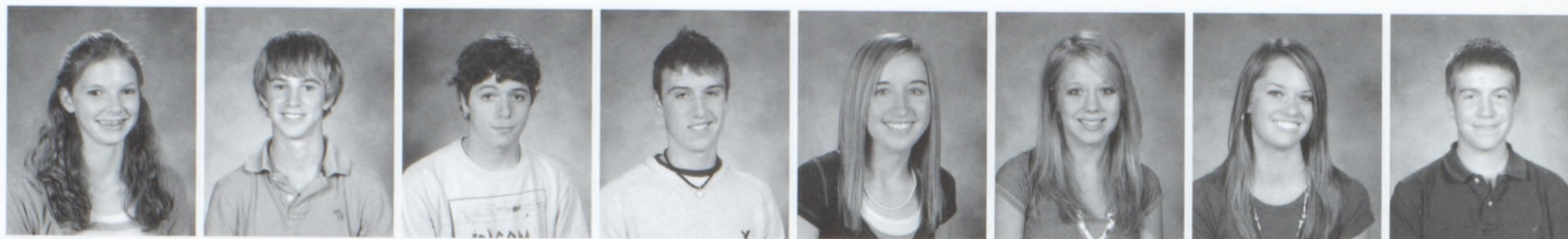
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Igor Ticac  
Lindsay Timmons  
Ryan Torgerson  
Lesley Tosch  
Gabe Tovar  
Stephanie Trail



Alec Trainer  
Drake Tuttle  
Benjamin Vandyriff  
Aldijana Vejzovic  
Taylor Vines  
Tony Wahl  
Amanda Walker-King  
Eric Walters



Brooke Walters  
Tyler Waltz  
Mike Weese  
Joshua Wenndt  
Brianna Westlake  
Whitney Wheeler  
Amanda Whitney  
Benjamin Wilkens



Bryan Wilkins  
Cory Williams  
Paul Williams  
Ashley Williamson  
Allie Wilmore  
Drew Wilson  
Keith Wiskirchen  
Jessica Worley



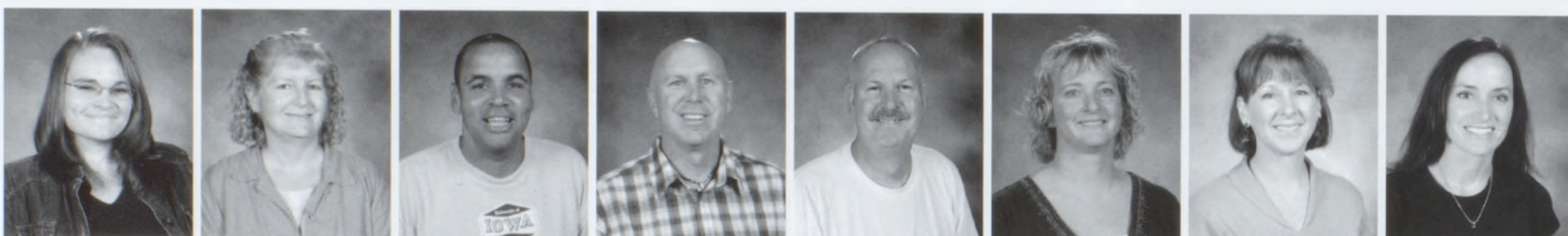
Taryn Young  
Brock Zenor  
Jacob Zenor  
Katie Zimmer  
*Faculty*  
Heather Adair  
Chanham Baccam



# Faculty



Tonia Backous  
Sue Baker  
Howard Barber  
Randy Barrick  
Dave Beason  
Chris Beguhn  
Jane Behrens  
Audrey Bell



Cheryl Berglund  
Jan Bjurstrom  
Jeri Blanchard  
Pam Brown  
Sarah Brown Westling  
Kyla Burns  
Teri Christensen  
Sue Cline

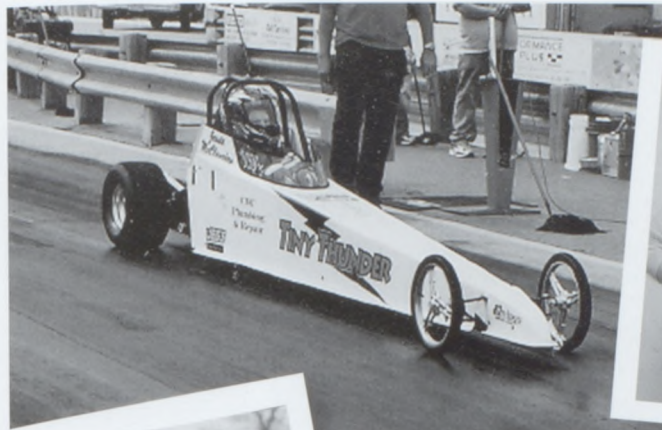




# Drag Racing/Motorcross

## Set Adrenaline on high

Sophomores hit the track for thrill-seeking hobby



Left: Sitting patiently in her junior dragster at Eddyville Raceway Park, sophomore Jesse McClanahan awaits her signal to race. Right: McClanahan proudly shows off her trophies she has won drag racing.



Driving at high speeds normally ended one of two ways: an awkward encounter with the police or an even more uncomfortable meeting with a ditch. For sophomores Jesse McClanahan and Mike Weese, breakneck speeds ended in a much more enjoyable fashion: with an adrenaline rush and the potential for trophies.

McClanahan started drag racing when her uncle got involved. "My uncle started about six years ago, then he got my dad involved, then the whole family (got involved)," McClanahan said. According to McClanahan, drag racing was a race between two motor vehicles racing in a straight line on a track either 1/8 or 1/4 of a mile long. Her dad raced a Ford truck and her sister and her sister's boyfriend raced motorcycles.

McClanahan and her family practiced and raced at Eddyville Raceway Park in Eddyville, Iowa. She practiced every weekend from March to October on Friday nights and all day Saturdays.

McClanahan traveled to Michigan for a competition where she tied for sixth place out of 100 racers; she also had gone to Illinois and Tennessee to race for fun. According to McClanahan, her proudest moment was winning the Rookie of the Year award at the

Eddyville banquet in December 2006. "I felt proud because my hard work had paid off," McClanahan said.

Weese raced all over the county, "(I've raced from) Washington to Florida and Maine to California," Weese said. He had raced in Loretta Lynns, Lake Whitney, Oak Hill, and Branson races. But, his motorcross career conflicted with school. According to Weese, in the '05-'06 school year he missed five weeks of school due to motorcross.

Weese practiced every day during the summer at a private track in Winterset, and raced on weekends all over the country. Weese sustained many injuries, including five concussions, with one major head injury. "I woke up in a hospital and didn't know what had happened," Weese said. He also had surgery and broken wrists and fingers.

According to Weese, his proudest moment was in 2005 when he won two national championships. "It made me feel pretty important," Weese said. After he won the championships, American Honda came to Weese and wanted to sponsor him.

Both McClanahan and Weese planned on racing for years to come. "I plan on racing until I can't race no more," Weese said. McClanahan wanted to get her future family involved in drag racing later in her life. "I plan on getting my kids involved," McClanahan said. "It is a really good family sport." *Spread by Matthew Courtney and Megan Browning*



Right: Racing his dirt bike at the Oak Hills motorcross competition, sophomore Mike Weese hurries to finish his race. Left: Weese shows off the trophies he has won from various races.



Kelly Coleman  
Dale D'Iapico  
Rachel Dowhan  
Lois Faley  
Russ Fortune  
Rich Gradoville  
Wendy Haight  
Kathy Hammans



## Curtain Call: Chorus program institutions announce retirement *the end of an era*

When vocal music teachers Wendy Haight and Jody White announced their retirements, vocal music program participants could not visualize the program without their leaders. "Our experience was so successful, so perfectly down-packed, that it's hard to imagine anyone could possibly give the program what White and Haight pulled off," senior Megan Bendixon said. "It doesn't seem like something that could just happen."

At the time White divulged plans for the retirement, chorus program participants already felt the loss of their leader. When White joined the family 28 years ago, the chorus program paled in comparison to what the institution was in 2007. White herself started the show choir competitive group and had watched the vocal program's continuous growth throughout her time as director. However, increased numbers did not prod White away from her dedication to improving each individual under her tutorial. "Singing was the most important thing," White said. "Developing all the different music styles was intrinsic to the success of the program."

Haight, formerly a teacher at the middle school, ventured across the parking lot three years earlier to work with the mixed chorus and guide the junior varsity show

choir, Synergy. Although the decision was painstaking, White and Haight ultimately decided to take advantage of the early retirement package and the opportunities it represented while it was available. Although unsure as to what the future had in store for her, White had numerous ideas. "Music is so flexible," White said. "Freelance work, consulting, judging, private lessons; I have so many exciting opportunities." Haight wanted more flexibility, as well, in order to be able to travel and visit her son, senior Dan Haight, at college. "I may work at Starbucks," Haight joked. "Free coffee is something I'd consider."

Despite their sadness at leaving, both White and Haight admitted their inability to conceive a better year to make their exit. "The kids are fabulous, great work ethic, lots of talent. The program has an excellent spirit right now. We're one of the best in the state," White said.

Other staff members that served their final days included nurse Penny Jess, and English teachers Cheryl Berglund and Marilyn Middleton. *Spread by Megan Susanne Browning and Leah Kron*



Sharing her expertise, vocal music teacher and show choir coordinator, Jody White, dispenses advice to her Innovation class.



Gazing intently at the stage, teacher Wendy Haight coordinates sound during Innovation in-class practices.



Jessica Heidbreder  
Ben Herman  
Josh Heyer  
Gerald Hollingsworth  
Jennifer Hrubetz  
Brad Jacobson  
Jason Jauron  
Marie Johnson





Melissa White  
Abbie Wiemers  
Jeremy Yenger





Mary Ann Johnson  
Melissa Johnson  
Patrick Kearney  
Jerry Kinder  
Jill King  
Debra Kleckner  
Angela Koob  
Curt Larkin



Patrick Mattingly  
Susan McCravy  
Marilyn Middleton  
Mary Moermond  
Diane Nelson  
Deb Nicholson  
Mariette Nikolai  
Jackie Norris



Jennifer Oden  
Norah Olguin  
Danielle Pippert  
Adam Retzlaff  
Alicia Rollison  
Dan Scannell  
Mark Schillerstrom  
Chris Siewert



Ashley Thompson  
Brigid Townsend  
Michelle Tracy  
Wendy Vanderport  
Sharon Von Hagen  
Daniel Weiss  
Josh Welter  
Jody White



# APRIL ADAMS

April,  
Our sweet baby girl.....

We're so proud of the person you have become and are yet to be. The world is your playground...live in it and treasure everyday. Don't be afraid to take chances but also learn from your mistakes. (There will be some, that's okay!)

Always remember that you can be, do, or achieve anything that you put your heart and soul into.

Congratulations!! We love you!

*Mom, Dad,  
& Jordan*



# QUINN BAILEY

Aaron "Quinn,"

We are so proud of you for who you are. You are kindhearted, understanding, hard working and have a wisdom beyond your years- all of which you'll need as you venture into your own wide world. Aspire to a greater good, speak the truth and keep peace with your soul and all your young ambitions will be met with the kindness and compassion of others. We believe in you!

*Love,  
Mom, Dad  
& Niles*



# BRENT BARZ

Congratulations! You are such a joy in our lives. We couldn't be more proud of you. Your greatest gift is your ability to turn your dreams into realities. We can't wait to see where your dreams will take you!

*Love,  
Mom, Dad  
& Tiff*



# KODI BOCKENSTEDT

Koko,

As you go through life, there are many challenges you'll face. You have successfully completed one of them: high school! We're all very proud of you and wish you the best luck in your future challenges- we're always here for you! Congratulations, we love you very much!

*Love Mom, Dad,  
Chase, & Chance*



# SCOTT BOWER

Dear Scott,

Over the past 18 years we have watched you go passionately after whatever you wanted to do. From piano playing to Snappers roller hockey, fancy yo-yo tricks to Ice Dogs travel hockey, go-carting, and drawing and dirt bike racing. You always put everything you had into whatever you were doing and we loved being there watching you!

We all learned some valuable lessons from your accident in June '05; be thankful for good health and well being, never take each for granted, trust in God and live each and every day to the fullest. Always remember!

Through all of your life lessons we are so proud of the man you've become. Take it all, what you've learned and what you know, and go out there and find that passion~it's waiting for you! You've got what it takes to do anything you want in life. We believe in you, are here for you always, and can't wait to watch you pursue your dreams!!!

*We love you so much,  
Mom, Dad & Matt*



# KRISTA BOWERS

Krista,

We're very, very proud of you and your accomplishments! From the times we rocked you with your "blankie" until now, we have always felt so lucky to have you as our daughter. You've got such a bright future ahead of you! We know that you'll succeed no matter what path you choose to follow... just keep working hard, stay focused on your dreams and believe in yourself. Enjoy life, keep smiling and remember we'll always be here for you if you need us. We love you!

*Love,  
Mom & Dad and Amy*





# CHASE BAUMGARTNER

Chase,

Congratulations! We are so proud of you! You have accomplished many feats in your 18 years. We have enjoyed watching you grow into a loyal and loving young man. Your outgoing personality always makes you fun and exciting to be around. In your journey through life stay true to yourself, loyal to your family and friends, and have fun. Remember that your journey is what YOU make it. May all your dreams come true. We Love You!



Love,  
Mom & Dad

# MEGAN BENDIXEN

Megan,

Congratulations! We are so proud of you and all your hard work and accomplishments, both in the classroom and your many activities. It's been a lot of fun watching performances with the color guard, band, show choir and choir. We'll miss you when you go off to college, but we know good things are ahead of you. Keep up the good work, be proud of yourself, and hang on to your great sense of humor. We love you and are here for you always.



Love,  
Mom & Dad

# JOELLE BLANCHARD

Joelle,

You have always had your own style. Your free and caring spirit will take you far. We are always here for you, to guide you and will take you far. We are always here for you, to guide you and support you.



All our love,  
Mom, Dad, Danny, Stacey  
& Lilly, Michael & Abi, Jeff,  
Lindsay, Cameron & Justine

# ABBY BOWMAN



Abby,

Congratulations on a stellar high school education and experience! We couldn't be more proud of you or more excited about the big adventures that await you in college and beyond. We know you'll continue to do an amazing job of taking advantage of all life's opportunities. We love you very much and will always be here for you, and we'll always come visit you wherever in the world you live!

Love,  
Mom, Dad & Leah



# MATT BURCH

Matthew,

It was not long ago you blessed our lives as our first born son. You've matured from a little boy to a responsible young man. We've watched you take leadership roles, new adventures and accept challenges. We have watched your faith grow. We are so proud of you and the person you have become. We continue to pray God will bless you, guide you and direct you down the path He has planned for you. Always remember the Lord is with you wherever you go. Let your light shine! We love you very much!!

Love,  
Mom, Dad  
& Abby



# ALISON BURNS

Alison,

You're off to do your thing- and if it's anything like what you've accomplished so far, it'll be awesome. You have a wonderful future ahead with so many great things just around life's corner. Just keep making those good choices and don't stop being your independent self.

You've been loved every moment of your life- we're so very proud of the special person you are!

Love,  
Mom, Dad  
& Jonathan





# SCOTT BYRD

Scott:

No child was ever more wanted or loved than you. Although our family life turned out differently from the life we had anticipated, you've managed to surmount the challenges and grow into a strong, wise, compassionate young man. You've given us so much joy over the years -- we'll never forget the hockey and baseball seasons! -- and we look forward to watching you define and live your dreams. You have a huge heart and tremendous talent, and we hope you know how much we believe in and love you.



*We are with you always,  
Mom, Dad & Caroline*

# JOE CATE

Joe -

We are so proud of the young adult that you have become. Dream big, take risks and continue to make good choices. We can't wait to see where your dreams take you!

*Love,  
Mom & Dad*



# SUSAN CLAUSEN



Susan,

We are So proud of you! You dream, believe, and achieve. We respect the way you lead, encourage others, and continually strive to make a positive difference in everything you do. Q, you're a great daughter, sister, and friend. You've had a great high school experience, and we know that Winona State will be awesome too! Go Warriors!

Keep God in the middle of your life, hold your family and friends close, and keep giving 100% to everything you do.

*With all our love,  
Mom, Dad & Amy*



# RYAN DICKEY

Congratulations Ryan!

We are so very proud of you and all that you have achieved! It seems like just yesterday that you took that first crazy ride down the stairs in your bouncy-chair...and it has been a wild and exciting ride ever since! You have grown into a very accomplished young man and we wish you every good thing. With your determination and talent, you can achieve whatever you dream. All our love goes with you in everything you do.

*Mom & Dad*

I've always had you to look up to and you were always there for me! I'm going to miss you! You're the BEST big grother anyone could have! Best of luck at ISU!

*Love,  
Katie*



# TYLER FOSTER

Tyler,

Happy High School Graduation! I'm so proud of all you've done, and can't wait to watch and cheer as you start the next chapter of your life in college.

*Love,  
Mom*



# LYDIA GIVENS

Lydia,

You have been one of God's greatest blessings to us. You are a fun person to be around and a terrific dancer. You have become a wonderful, beautiful young lady. We wish you happiness and success as you venture into the excitement of your college years and beyond. We are proud of you. Go HAWKS.

*Love,  
Mom & Papa*





# ERIC CLUNEY



Eric,

We are proud of you. We want to share our encouragement and thoughts. Welcome new challenges. Have an open mind to the endless opportunities of this magnificent world. Believe in yourself and know we will always be here for you. Share in peoples lives. Accept them for who they are. Be responsible. Have fun. Enjoy your life. As you set out on your journey to define yourself, never let there be a moment where you forget you are always in our thoughts, and how much we love you.



Love,  
Mom & Dad

# AMBER DAVIDSON

Don't cry because its over; smile because it happened.

CONGRATULATIONS!!! Amber Lynne Davidson

Love,  
Mom, Pat & Andy



# ABBY DAVIS

Abby,

We are behind you, win or lose, down every road you choose.  
We wish you the very best in life!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, & Nick



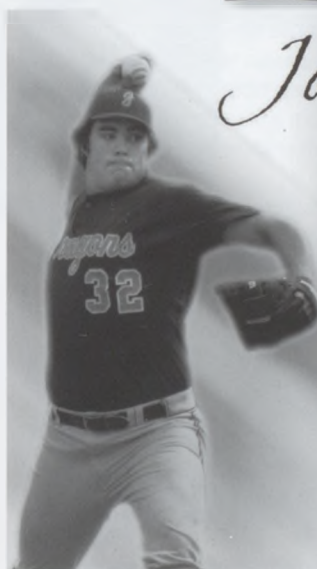
# JOSH GOWDY

*Josh...*

*May you have as much success and happiness in your adult life as you have found in the game that you love and have a passion for ... baseball.*

*We are so proud of you and your accomplishments. Way to go, Bud....*

Love,  
Dad & Mom  
Michelle & Ron



# TAYLOR GOWEY

Taylor-

You have learned so much, grown so much, and accomplished so much already in your first 18 years of life, we can't wait to see what the next 18 bring! Wherever you decide to go to college, we wish you happiness and continued success. Life is short - have fun, but always remember to behave!

We are incredibly proud of you and just want you to know that it won't be the same around our house without you - you will be missed, but always loved!

All our love,  
Dad, Mom, Emma  
& Rachel



# ALEX GUNS

Alex,

You are a unique individual.

You're special.

You have dreams.

You see the world in a way most of us can't.

You're a brother, a son, a nephew, a grandson, a friend, an acquaintance someone people want to know, because you bring something special to life and to the lives of those around you. You want to ask the questions, know the answers and share it with everyone.

We love you and could not be more proud of you. Pursue your dreams, find the answers, share with everyone.

Your Family





# DAN HAIGHT

Dan Haight-

From "Freaky-Husker-Boy" to  
"Hawkeye Fan" - You grew up  
too fast!

We love you and are proud to  
call you our son!

*Love,  
Mom & Dad,  
Emily & Tory,  
Molly & Tim*



# PAUL HALTERMAN

Paul,

Congratulations to the boy with  
the "Big Hair" in the Class of 2007.

*Love,  
Mom & Dad  
Andy, Luke, Rick, Robert*



# CARLY HAMMER

Carly,

Who knew the reason you  
waited so long to get out of your  
stroller was to save your legs for  
all those miles running x-country  
and track. So many years of fun  
extraordinary memories and  
moments we'll treasure always.  
Keep true to yourself and you'll  
find great success and continue  
to amaze us! We look forward  
to where your next run takes you.  
Thanks for being the one and  
only you.

*Our Love Always,  
Mom, Dad & Alex*



# JOSEPH HARCHARIK

Joseph,

Congratulations! We  
are very proud of what you  
have accomplished during  
your four years. You have  
provided us with so many  
priceless memories. Look  
forward to your bright  
future and you will achieve  
your goals.

We are so proud to be  
you parents and we will  
always be here for you.

*Love,  
Mom, Dad &  
Grace*



# RHIANNA HARM



Rhianna,

You couldn't wait to grow up... but  
look how far you've come!

Live your dreams, love your life, and  
remember our love is with you every step  
of the way.

We are very proud of you.

*Love,  
Mom, Dad,  
Ryan & Casey*

# JON HOFFMAN

Dear Jon,

Fifteen years ago, you couldn't  
wait to start school. Now, you  
can't wait to be finished. There is  
an end to school in sight! We're  
so proud of you. What you've  
learned so far will serve you well.  
You are a person of wisdom,  
integrity, strength and compassion  
and touch... we are you number  
one fans! (BOOM IT!!!)

*We love you,  
Mom & Dad*





# ETHAN HANSEN



Ethan-

From the moment we heard about you, we wanted you. From the moment we saw you, we loved you. You are a wonderful son - honest, trustworthy, compassionate, funny, and loving. Our hope is that you continue to trust God and utilize the gifts he has given you. We love you so much and are so proud of you. It is our privilege to have you as our son, and we know we have been blessed by having you in our lives.

*Love,  
Mom & Dad*

# JON HANSEN

Congratulations Jon,

Where have the years gone? You have always been a strong, independent, free spirited young man who sometimes could be a little stubborn. Your sense of humor has always given us many laughs over the years, along with a sense of adventure that many times left us holding our breath. Over the years you have shown us many times how much courage you do have.

Maintain those traits with an open mind and open your heart and you can go as far as you want. Always remember to follow your dreams. You always have our support. As you take your first steps to a new adventure in this world, always remember we love you and are very proud to be called your Mom, Dad, and sister.

*We love you,  
Mom, Dad & Jessica*



# ZACH HANSEN



Zach-

You are such a great son and we love you so much. You are always so happy and you have been so much fun. We love that you have become a young man that is caring, respectful and loves God. You have worked so hard in school and you have been able to accomplish so much. We are so proud of you and know we are blessed to have you as our son.

*Love,  
Mom & Dad*

# KATIE HOWE

Katie-

As one door on your life's journey closes and a new one opens-

We wish you determination and drive - not for personal gain, but to work for a better world.

We wish you great success - not measured by wealth, but measured by the impact you have on the lives you touch.

We wish you peace and contentment - not from caution and comfort, but from knowing that you always gave your best to every challenge.

We wish you happiness and joy - not from material possessions, but from knowing the gift of love and sharing it with others as it has been shared with you.

*With all of our love,  
Mom, Dad &  
Kristen*



# KELSEY HYDE



Kelsey,

What fun it has been to see you grow up (you have, you know). We are proud of the young woman you've become. Keep on exploring and learning and having fun. The world is a big place, see it all, and then come home and tell us about it - we'll always be here for you.

*We love you,  
Mom, Dad,  
Spencer & Will*



# JEREMY JOHNSON



Jeremy,

Seems just yesterday we brought you home from the hospital in your newborn tux, and the world was brand new.

Now here you are 18 years later, grown into quite a young man, and the world is brand new.

The years have gone by so quickly; we cherish each and every one. How proud we are of all you have accomplished; continue to plan and dream. We wish you all the best for your future; we will always believe in you.

*All our love, forever!  
Mom, Dad & Sarah*



# KELLEN JOHNSON

Kellen,

Your incredible ability to always smile, will take you anywhere you desire. Always know your true worth lies not in where you come at the journey's end, but in who you become along the way. Good luck at IOWA, GO HAWKS!!!

*We love you,  
Mom, Dad, Bryce, & Mryn*



# BEN KOHLES

Ben,

Congratulations on your graduation! May your life be filled with success.

*Love,  
Mom & Dad*



# KELSEY KOVACEVICH

Kelsey,

Congratulations, we are so proud of the person you've become. Your smile, energy, and kindness have enriched our lives and so many people around you. Remember to have faith in yourself, love for your family and compassion for others, then no matter what the future holds you will accomplish your goals and reach for your dreams.

*Love Always,  
FAMILY!  
(Dad, Mom, & Alex)*



# JUSTINA MAZZA



Justina,

Congratulations on your graduation. You have given us so much joy over the past 18 years. You have made us so proud to be your parents. You have touched so many lives with your beautiful smile and wonderful personality.

Good luck with all you choose to do. We love you very much.

*Love,  
Mom & Dad*



# MAURIO MCKAY



Congratulations MAURIO!

Son, your hard work and accomplishments that you have achieved will go a long way in your endeavors in college and life. You've become a very studious, responsible young man and a great role model for your twin brothers Marcus and Andre. We are very proud of you and we love you very much!

GOOD LUCK...to you with fulfilling your dreams.

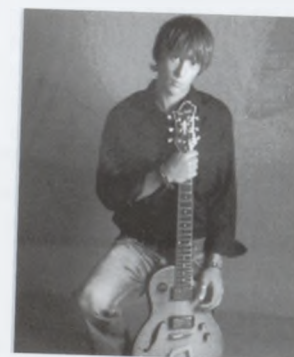
*WE LOVE YOU!  
YOUR FAMILY,  
MOM & DAD  
Your brothers, MARUS & ANDRE*

# JOHN MILLER

"Your cannot control the length of your life, but you can control its width, depth, and height."

-Evan Esar

*We love you & are proud of you,  
Dad, Mom, Ann, & Haney*





# WILLIE LOWE

Willie,

Time has passed so quickly and now here you are ready to start a new chapter in your life. Your hard work and achievements will allow limitless opportunities for your future. We are proud of you and enjoy the wonderful person you have become. Enjoy all of the new adventures that await you.

*We love you  
very much,  
Mom, Dad,  
& Elissa*



# AMANDA LOWER

Amanda,

We love you more than you'll ever know. Yours is the magical life that transformed us into a family. As a child you had the sweetest of natures: dreamy, giggly, always a smile on your little face. You've many accomplishments to your credit, but what makes us especially proud, is your kind heart and generous spirit.

Ever since you were small, we've told you to trust in God, think for yourself, and to be your own girl. You're a great kid, but don't forget, a little anarchy is good for the soul! So cheer too loud and too long, throw a little t.p., question authority (respectfully) and baby, even though its a long time to get there: be your own woman.

*Love you,  
Mom, Dad, & Ryan*



# KEVIN MARVIN

Kevin,

From the moment you joined our family you have enlightened us and challenged us with your unique perspective on everything. You make us proud as you continue your life journey. Remember: people may doubt what you say, but they will believe what you do. So ... Do the best you can Where you can With what you have.

*Our Love,  
Mom & Dad, Taylor & Kevin*



# ERIK MORTENS

Erik,

We are proud of the man you have become and your values. It is exciting to see you reach new heights as you spread your wings and soar towards you dreams. Never forget to be grounded in your faith in God. Remember, you can count on faith and family when challenges pop up along life's path. These challenges can be opportunities for great personal growth. Remember to laugh often, love with all your heart, and continue to be of service to others. Always know that we love you and will support you in all that you do.

*Love,  
Mom & Dad*



# BRAD NELSON

Congratulations Bradley!

We are proud of you. We wish you success, happiness and love in the years to come.

*Love,  
Mom, Dad, & Abbey*



# DREW NESS

Drew,

Be ready to do whatever is good, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward everyone. Titus 3:1-2

*Love,  
Mom, Dad, Matt & Michelle.*





# NATE NUZUM

Nate,

You have grown into a strong, wonderful young man and we are very proud of you. It has been so much fun watching you grow. Congratulations on your accomplishments and good luck in the future.

*We love you,  
Mom & Dad*



# EMILY O'KEEFE

Emily (AKA - MLE, Mildred or Big Red),

Wow, what an exciting and busy four years you have had at JHS, and we have enjoyed being part of your wonderful journey. From winning state in cheerleading to homecoming court attendant, student council member, soccer stud and all your academic successes, you have accomplished so much and we are so proud of you!

Thanks for being such a great kid and making parent/teacher conferences so fun to attend!

God bless you and remember to always keep your faith and give 110% to everything you do.

"You are my sunshine"

*We love you,  
Mom, Dad,  
Carly & Craig*



# JOHN PEITZMAN

Hey Crazy,

You have brought joy and laughter into our home and hearts since the day you were born. Now as you are graduating, we pray God's blessing and direction in everything you do!

*Love,  
Mom & Dad,  
Jodi & Jenna*



# EMILY ROESER

Emily,

You've come along way Baby!

You have been strong in mind and will. You insisted on ballet lessons at three, soccer by age six, volunteering from as early as five, cheerleading, tennis, yearbook and so many more activities to keep us on the move. You've not been afraid to try anything at least once. You made our lives complete and we look forward to you accomplishing your dreams with our continued support.

*We will love you  
always!  
Mom, Steve & Amie*



# NICK SEDGLEY

Nick,

As you finish high school and move on with your life, our hopes for you are the same as we had two years ago for your brother. They are for happiness, success, fun and laughter, peace, love and blessings from God. Continue to work as hard as you have these past few years. Remember that your family is always behind you and we love you very much.

*Love,  
Mom, Dad  
and Colin*



# CAL SMITH

Congratulations Cal!!

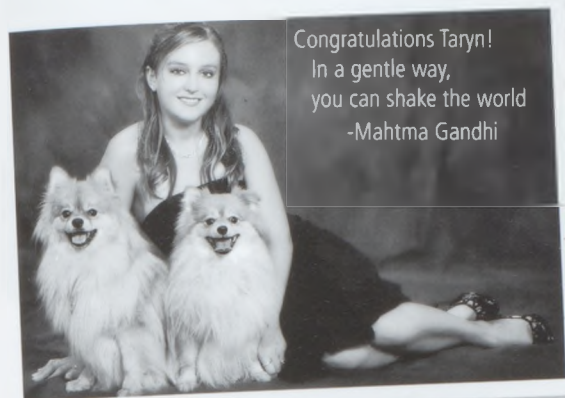
I am so proud of you! I hope you realize and understand how truly special you are. Your sense of humor and intellect are very unique and your personality is unmatched. I wouldn't want you to be any other way! Don't ever lose your creativity and always continue to learn something new. I love you very much!!!

*Love,  
Mom & Andy*





# TARYN QUESNELL



Congratulations Taryn!  
In a gentle way,  
you can shake the world  
-Mahtma Gandhi

*We love you dearly,  
Mom, Dad, Ryan,  
Simba & Nala*

# JAY QUICK

Jay,  
Your name means the "Lovely One"  
-- how appropriate. Your love for  
God, life and people is contagious.  
Continue to grow into the person  
God created you to be - fun,  
passionate, caring, daring and loving.

*We love you and are  
praying for you,  
Mom, Dad,  
Joel & Ashley*



# ERIC REESE

Eric,

Congratulations on graduation  
and Happy Birthday! Not everyone  
graduates on their 18th! The last  
18 years with you have gone quickly  
and we have made many great  
memories. Wrestling, boating,  
skiing, wakeboarding, four wheeling  
and more! You have also always  
been such a great help on so many  
projects that we have completed  
and have always made the work fun  
and rewarding - especially clearing  
the lot and putting in the patio.

We wish you the very best for your  
future. Keep up the hard work and  
you will be successful in whatever  
you do.

*Love you,  
Mom, Dad & Sarah*



# REBECCA STOEKER

Dear Rebecca,

We love you and are so very  
proud of you! You are such  
a fun part of our lives, and  
have so many good strengths  
in your character. We look  
forward to seeing God's plans  
for your future.

*Much love,  
Dad & Mom  
Jasen, Laura &  
Michael*



# KRISTEN STRAWHACKER



Kristen,

You are everything we ever hoped  
and prayed for in a daughter. You  
have grown into a young woman  
with strong moral character and high  
aspirations. We are proud of who you  
are and what you have accomplished.  
You are ready to meet the challenges  
ahead. We will always love and  
support you.

*Mom & Dad*

# TOMMY STROUD



Tommy,  
It's your time to fly. Enjoy the ride. Land safely...

*Love,  
Mom & Dad*





# KYLE THOMANN

Dear Kyle,

We can't believe how time has flown. It seems just like yesterday that we were putting you on the bus for kindergarten. It has been such a wonderful experience watching you grow up, from a sweet little boy to the fine young man you are today. We couldn't be more proud! We have loved watching you participate in all of your activities from hockey to show choir. You have always given it your all. Keep that up, it will take you far. Add your sense of humor, your smile and hard work and you've got it made! Have fun at Iowa, but work hard. We love you so much.

Love,  
Mom, Dad & Allison



# GEORGE VARDAXIS

Dear George,

We would like to wish you and your fellow graduates the best of luck as you move on to your next exciting phase of your lives. We are proud of your accomplishments and of the person you grew up to be.

All our love,  
Mom, Dad, your  
brothers Petros & Theo  
& your grandparents



# HEATHER WENDEL

Heather,

You are a wonderful daughter and we are proud of you. Good luck at I.S.U.

Love,  
Mom & Dad



# CASSIDY WILLIAMS

Cassidy,

Congratulations on your high school graduation and your acceptance to Iowa State University!

We have no doubt that your determination and strong convictions will carry you through college and on to a successful future.

We are so proud of you and want you to never forget that we will always be here to love and support you.

Love,  
Mom & Jim



# RACHEL WINTERBOTTOM

Tissy LaRee LaRue,

We have felt so privileged to watch you grow into such an accomplished young woman, beautiful both inside and out. Now we can't wait to follow your adult life, and watch your dreams come true, as you have made ours.

Congratulations on the end journey, and the beginning of another!

Goodybye Dragons... Go Hawks!!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Robby  
& James



# JENNA WINZENBURG

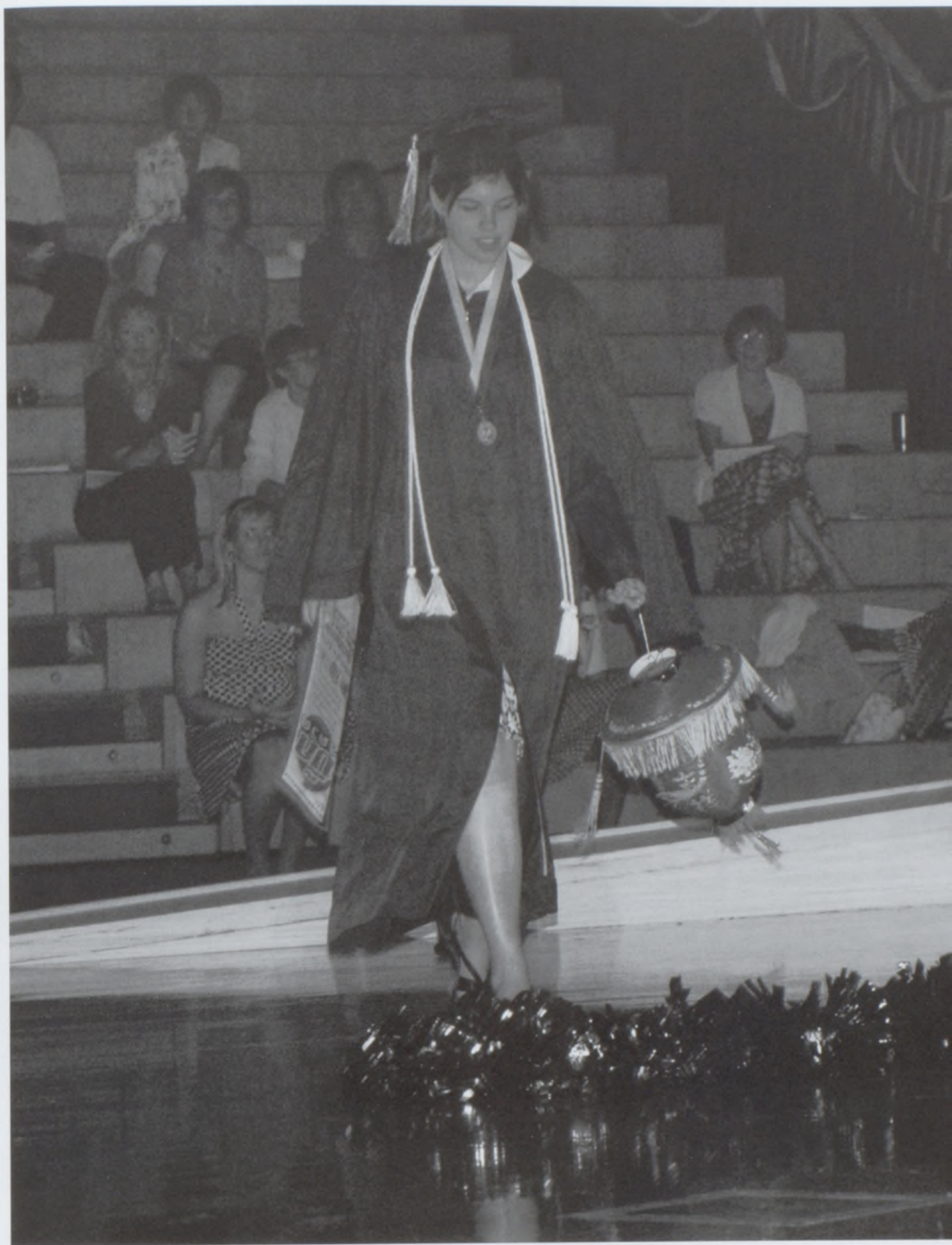
Congratulations, Jenna!

From your early years at Windsor Elementary in Des Moines and announcing for Kids Radio Mania, through your high school years working at WHO radio, you used your beautiful voice to stand up for what was right.

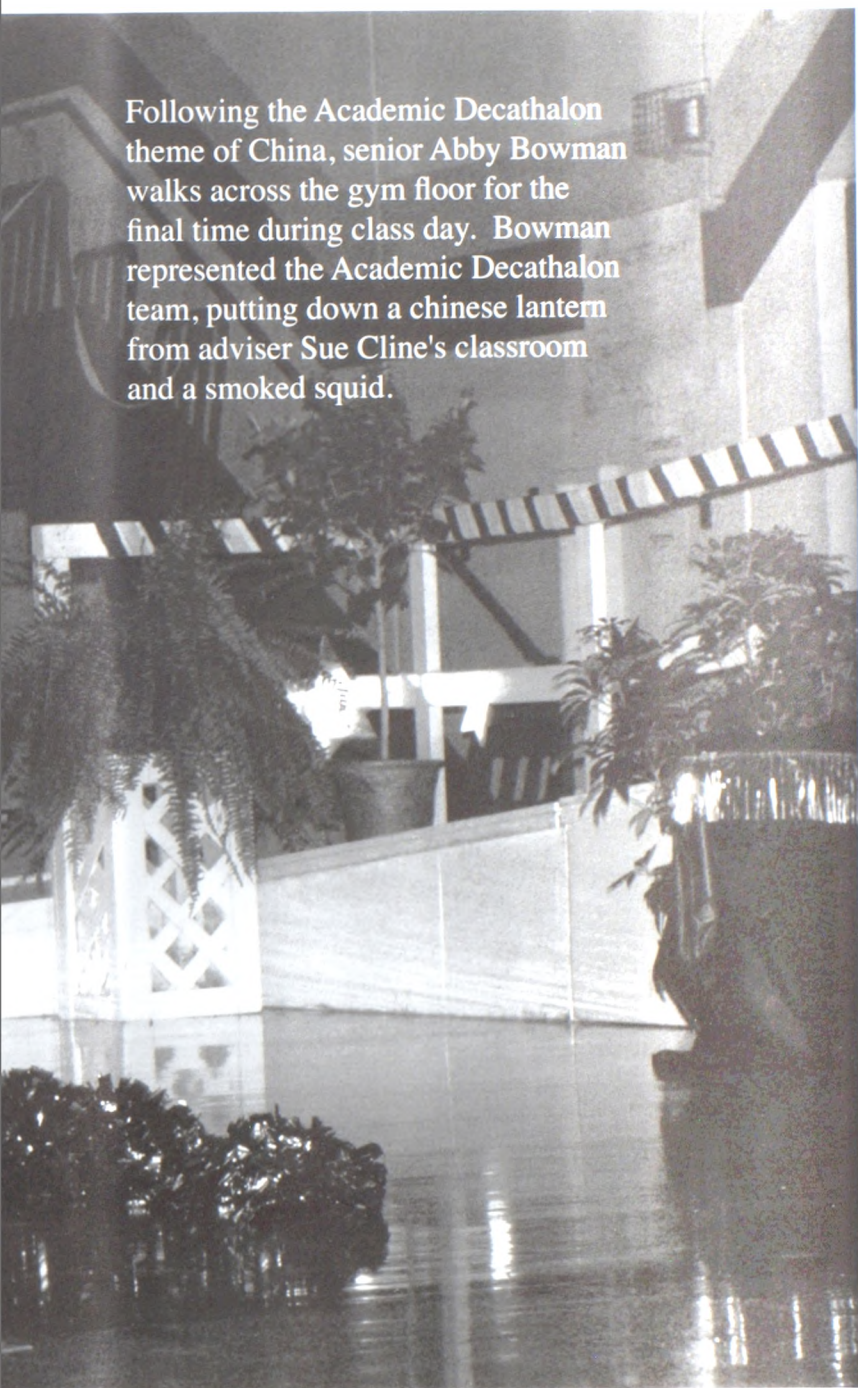
We are proud of your national award for promoting children's literacy and your accomplishments as president of Johnston Mayor's Youth Council. May you have great success in the future.







Following the Academic Decathlon theme of China, senior Abby Bowman walks across the gym floor for the final time during class day. Bowman represented the Academic Decathlon team, putting down a chinese lantern from adviser Sue Cline's classroom and a smoked squid.





Reference

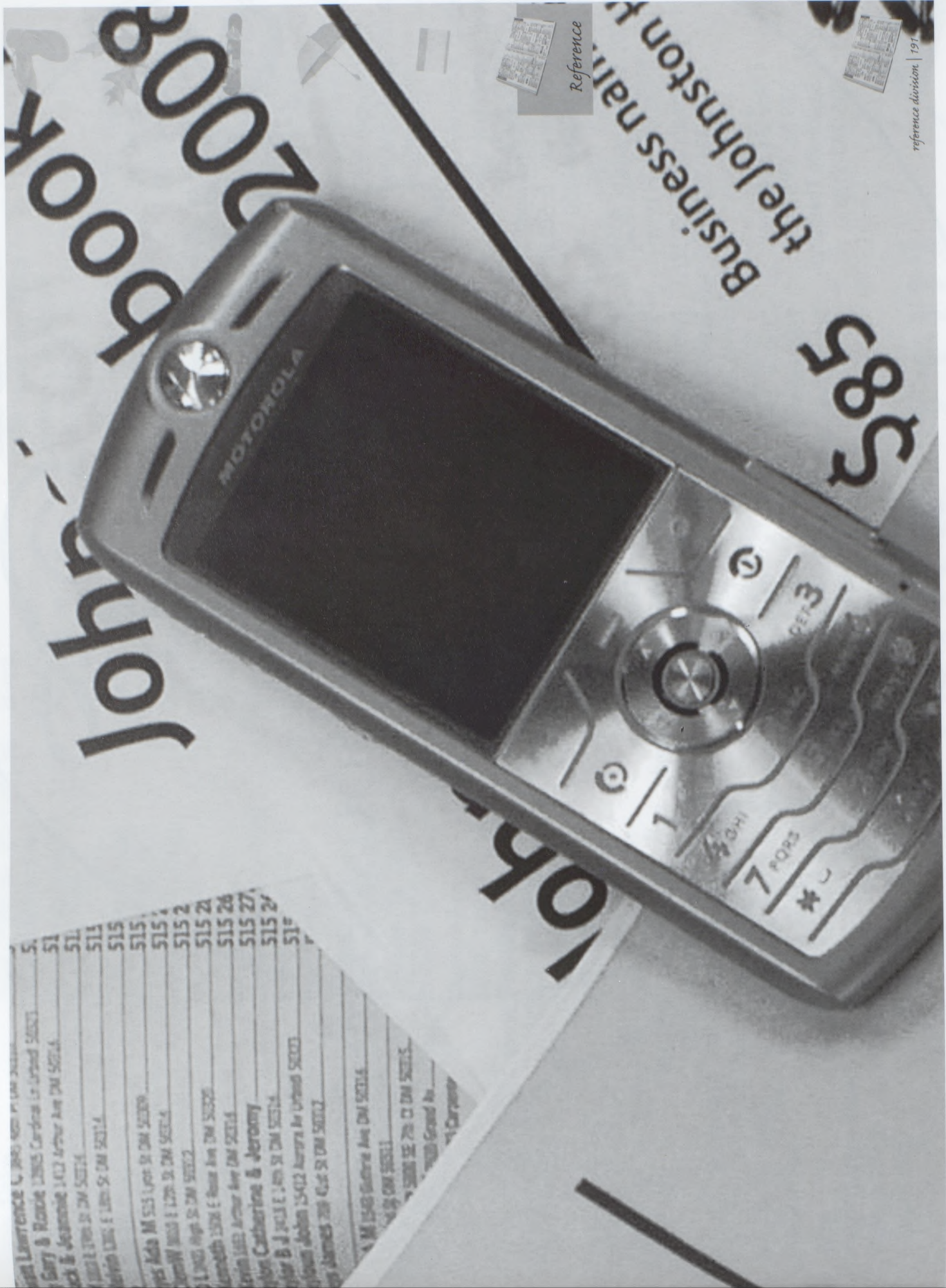
## Thanks Supporters!

Spread by Kiley Dewhurst and Grace Meiners

As the internet and televised commercials grew larger, the need for print advertising all but disappeared. As you flip through the pages of our book, notice the ads printed along the sides of various pages and turn the page to look over the names on the next page, perhaps you may even have the urge to give them the business they deserve. These names are the people who support us with the realization that their ad is not very likely to draw in prime business. They stand behind our staff as friends, family, and acquaintances making it possible to print our 223 page yearbook. Thank you so much for all the support you have given us! *Copy by Kiley Dewhurst*







Reference



# Support Dragon Booster Ads

S and Diner  
8385 Birchwood Ct  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-276-3700

Acceleration Iowa  
3000 Justin Drive  
Urbandale, Ia 50322  
515-334-3278

Ace Body Motor  
625 NE 45th Pl  
Saylorville Township  
515 243-7133

All State Insurance  
8515 Douglas Ave  
Urbandale, Ia 50322  
515-278-4681

Breizholz Construction  
5625 Mills Civic Parkway  
West Des Moines, Ia 50266  
515-440-3014

Capitol City Coins  
7560 Hickman Rd.  
Des Moines, Ia 50322

China Cafe  
5969 Merle Hay Road  
Johnston Ia, 50131  
515-276-6688

Coleman/Quiner  
5460 Merle Hay Road  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-331-3663

Corner House Gymnastics  
6817 Douglas Ave  
Urbandale, Ia 50322  
515-276-8819

Cornerstone Church  
3114 SW 61st St  
Des Moines, Ia 50321  
515-243-2852

Dairy Queen  
6150 Merle Hay Road  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-278-5904

Dr. Langwith Orthodontics  
6105 NW 86th St  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-253-0911



Elan Salon  
200 Gateway Dr. STE  
Suite 105  
Grimes, Ia 50111

Entourage  
5525 Merle Hay Road  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-278-8844

First Bank  
8460 Birchwood Ct.  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-440-7180

Four Corners Feed  
5919 NW 62nd Ave  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-276-0791

Frank Stout Ins  
6521 Merle Hay Road  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-276-0914

Geysa's Tailors  
6827 Douglas Ave.  
Urbandale, Ia 50322  
515-276-1833

Granite Marble and Tile  
1333 SW Ordinance Road  
Ankeny, Ia 50023  
515-963-9370

Halo  
7440 Hickman Road  
Windsor Heights, Ia 50322  
515-278-3487

Huys Telecom Partners Inc.  
9001 Hickman Road  
Urbandale, Ia 50322  
515-331-1994

John Deere Credit  
6400 NW 86th St  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-267-3000

Jordan Motors  
5200 Merle Hay Road  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-253-0333

Kennedy Dentist  
5460 Merle Hay Road  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-276-2500

Kinsey Floor  
10327 NW 107th Ave  
Granger, Ia 50109  
515-999-2776

Long Investment  
No Information was  
provided for this  
business

Lucas Cabinet Design  
No Information was  
provided for this  
business

Midwest Oral and  
Facial Surgery  
5619 NW 86th St  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-251-7300

Morrill  
No Information  
was provided for  
this business

Oaks Construction  
P.O. Box 98  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
51-254-1876

Office Depot  
4347 Merle Hay Road  
Des Moines, Ia 50310  
515-331-3319

Perfection Auto Spa  
8277 Birchwood Ct.  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-252-9981

Permaform  
P.O. Box 555  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-276-9610

Plaza Florists  
6656 Douglas Ave  
Urbandale, Ia 50322  
515-276-2144

Professional Hair Image  
2799 100th St.  
Urbandale, Ia 50322  
515-270-6600

Snoer Lube  
5358 Merle Hay Road  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515276-8011

Snoer Snoopers  
11121 Plum Drive  
Urbandale, Ia 50322  
515-251-8200

Dr. Alan Swett  
5965 Merle Hay Road  
Johnston, Ia, 50131  
515-253-0405

Taco Casa  
2506 Euclid Ave  
Des Moines, Ia 50310  
515-276-7785

Tco Nail  
11111 Plum Drive  
Urbandale, Ia 50322  
515-334-0838

Trieste  
5515 Mills Civic Parkway  
West Des Moines, Ia 50266  
515-564-7777

UPS Store  
8805 Chambery Blvd #300  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-334-0753

Van Ausdall  
No Information was  
provided for this  
business

Village Vet  
5260 Merle Hay Road  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-278-5531

Vogue Vision  
2405 Ingersoll Ave  
Des Moines, Ia 50312  
515244-2338

Waters Edge Marina  
6060 NW Beaver Drive  
Johnston, Ia 50131  
515-278-8676

Woodfields  
3201 100th St  
Urbandale, Ia 50322  
515-727-7977

Thank You





# Academic

## Decathlon



Dylan Cue, Brittany Deal, Katie Githens, Patrick Xu, David Zheng Row 2: Troy Shu, Zac Stevens, Sam Parker, Neal Herink, Ben Mulaosmanovic, Mitch Blanchard, Row 3: Blake Lewis, Chris Ajluni, Megan Browning, Nikki Ward, Azra Beganovic, Amra Beganovic, Joey Kanauss Row 4: Ian White, Danny Fitzgerald, T.K Kanauss

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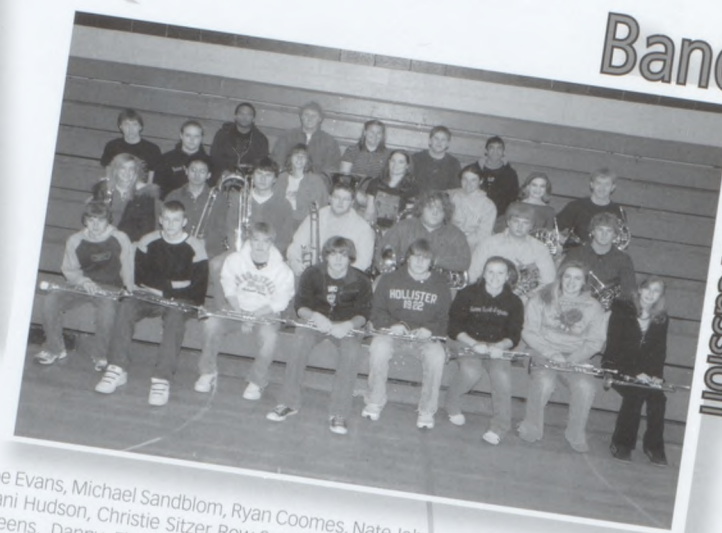
## Trip



Gina Pessolano, John Kimball Row 2: Alex Garland, Molly Mellinger, Sarah Blank

# Band

## Brass/Percussion



Joe Evans, Michael Sandblom, Ryan Coomes, Nate Johnson, Jake Heil, Betsy Pilkington, Dani Hudson, Christie Sitzer Row 2: Holly Von Fumetti, Kevin Shi, Nick Davis, Michael Skeens, Danny Fitzgerald, Ethan Nutter, Chris Williamson Row 3: Dane Seaberg, Dylan Cue, Shawna Polen, Teresa Davis, Alan Nagel, Leah Belknap, Brad Halbersma Row 4: Frank Baxter, Neil Erbes, Hannah Levine, Adam Helgeson, Corey Kunze

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Beane, Brittany 150





# Band

## Jazz



Achlev, Williamson, Saliya Wijeratne, Ben Hjelmaas, Allyson Mayer, Jordan Handel, Garret Manuel, Brad Nelson Row 2: Neil Erbes, Leah Belknap, Ian Beck-Cross, Nick Davis, Ethan Nutter, T.K. Kanauss, Holly Von Fumetti, Joe Evans

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# Band

## Jazz Lab



Krista Bowers, John Hall, Tim Clay, Leah Peterson, Michael Skeens, Danny Fitzgerald  
 Row 2: Dane Seaberg, Kelsey Bowen, Christina Aldrich, Jake Heil, Hailey Christianson, Ryan Coomes, Lindsay Fredrickson

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# Band

## Mind Ensemble



Lindsay Fredrickson, Becky Cooper, Hannah Wagner, Kathryn Huen, Brianna Upton, Amanda Johns, Laura Messerly Row 2: Erin Ballard, Hailey Christianson, Garret Manuel, Linda Brown, John Dzubak, Angela Schaefer, Fred Zhao, Erica Eaves, Ryan Dickey Row 3: T.K. Kanauss, Alexis Buchanan, Ian White, Kathryn Gulleen, Allyson Mayer, Sarah Mueller, Mallory McKinley, Rachel Stanley Row 4: Doug Haefele, Krista Bowers, Julia Zhang, Ian Beck-Cross, Daniel Chapman, Cody Zoss, Erik Mortens



# Band

## Woodwinds



Ellie Sams, Michelle Cross, Erin Topper, Kayla Schmidt, Amanda Hatfield, Kate Dickey, Kasi Dickerson, Dawn Wilkens Row 2: Kelsey Bowen, Elizabeth Lawrence, Chelsea McCombs, Cody Lenz, Katie Bonney, Senuri Jayatileka, Amra Beganovic, Makea Sanders Row 3: Taylor Probst, Tim Clay, Heidi Bibler, Leah Peterson, Breanna Ellis, John Hall, Ben Hjelmaas, Abby Davis Row 4: Erin Smalley, Ashley Williamson, Brad Nelson, Josh Merritt, Addison Nielsen, Laureca Landwehr, Christina Aldrich, Jordan Handel Row 5: Ashley Williamson, Charles Ellsworth, Saliya Wijeratne, Jon Emehiser, Jacob Vander Ploeg, Bryn Start, Azra Beganovic, Julia Steggerda

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# Baseball

## Sophomore



Trevor Haden, Austin Hartsöök, Mitch Blanchard, Justin Dierks, Darin Davis, Keaton Schuck Row 2: Josh Camos, Brian Lippincott, Brad Cleveland, Tyler Wengert, Lee Yocum, Nick Hunsburger Row 3: Coach Retzlaff, Kory Plagge, Travis Bisenuis, Jarrod Steen, Ryan McCauley, Reid Jewel, Zach Larimer, Coach Craig Kruger

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# Baseball

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Austin Perry, Joe Cate, Justin Hoelert, James Stone, Jon Hansen, Dustin Pirie, Greg Larpenier Row 2: Troy DuBay, Scott Byrd, Josh Gowdy, Rob Lang, Kyle McCracken, Ryan McCauley, Keaton Schuck, David Temple Row 3: Coach Randy Wee, Danny Cahill, Jonathan Bunting, Ryan Torgerson, Joe Pavelska, Jake Pfundheller, Bryan Lippincott, Eric Tubbs, Ryan Role, Coach Jake Randall

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# Basketball

## Boys Sophomore



Alfred Norte, Jake Rosentengle, Chris Hohwieler, Matt Kretzinger, Ben Brandsgard, John Kruger Row 2: Michael Kirkman, Ardin Naderevic, Derek Foster, Tyler Kutrik, Adi Seich, Brett Brohes, Tyler Smith, Kass Kunze Row 3: Coach Randy Barrick, Sam Parker, Miles Summa, Justin Amick, Jake Baumgartner, Dan Conn, Aric Greenfield, Coach Joshua Heyer

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 Coffman Ryan 152  
 Cohen Lindsey 138  
 Coleman Kelly 175  
 Collins Heidi 74  
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# Basketball

## Boys Varsity



Jake Baumgartner, Freddy Williams, Daniel Sigmund, Justin Amick, Sam Han, Thomas Lashier, Ray Hosh, Tyler Smith Row 2: Jake Tyler, Tim DeSplinter, Jared Walahoski, Nathan Clock, Trent Fisher, Kyle Sievers, Evan Summa, Chris Schap, Michael Elming, Ryan Bole, Row 3: Coach Chris Danner, Chase Baumgartner, David Kerns, Drew Ness, Brent Barz, Scott Cronin, Kellen Johnson, Eric Tubbs, Coach Bobby Sandquist

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# Basketball

## Girls JV



Stephanie Trail, Abby Gumina, Anna Lammers, Erica Weirich Row 2: Emira Deumic, Coleen Shannon, Tessa Fenimore, Maggie Thilges, Vedrana Porcan Row 3: Leah Kron, Stephanie Eckermann, Lauren Lund, Jennifer Ross





# Basketball

## Girls Varsity



Tessa Fenimore, Stephanie Trail, Colleen Shannon, Emira Deumic, Vedrana Forcan Row 2: Spencer Lang, Keith Wiskirchen, Micah Casey, Abby Gumina, Anna Lammers, Erica Weirich, Jeff Schmidt Row 3: Coach Power, Abby Sonner, Leslie Ware, Katelyn Sunde, Laura Hilby, Rachel Lang, Maggie Thilges, Coach Travis Busby Row 4: Coach Rich Gradoville, Leah Kron, Stephanie Eckermann, Aleece Gustafson, Lauren Lund, Jennifer Ross, Coach Beth Ward

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# Best

## Buddies



Crystal Hon, Alycia Waterman, Anjel Vodenik, Madalyn Simbro, Jacie Blunt, Molly Gehm, Adam Helgeson Row 2: Kelly Mackey, Spencer Cartwright, Zach Larimer, Liz Geisrich, Jared Alfred, Kathryn Huen, Jake Tyler Row 3: Kelsey Bowen, Nik Cook, Carson Kness, Keith Wiskirchen, Chris Soroka, Zach Hansen

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# Bowling

## Boys & Girls



Kayla Birmingham, Austin Denny, Brock Liles, Amy Bowers, Britta Pohlman, Kayla Schmidt Row 2: Kyle Lloyd, Ryan Harm, Sarah Blank, Abbey Wenzl, Tim Blank, Coach Vickie Borich, Cassidy Williams Row 3: Krista Bowers, Lesley Tosch, Lindsey Tosch, Katie Backstrom, Bailey Knapp, Kelsey Hyde Row 4: Matt Goodhue, Stroh Leslie, Mike Traxel, Jordan Thompson, Dan Haight, Nick Overton, Chris Wilkinson, Jerrod Michener, Tyler Foster-Stavneak, Tyler Waltz

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# Cheerleading

Fall Sophomore



Chelsea Bisenius, Taylor Probst, Shelby Brose, Hayley McDonald, Moli Kipp, Jessica Rice Row 2: Holly Kimball, Niki Feaster, Staci Smith, Cali Kress, Ashley Hoogenakker, Allie Strawhacker

# Cheerleading

Fall Varsity



Emily O'Keefe, Lindsey Basing, Corey Gordon Row 2: Jordan Skarphol, Rachel Winterbottom, Hilary Mumma, Ashley Bedord, Taylor Gowey, Alicia Watrous, Mickey Greene Row 3: Paula Cruzen, Allie Wilmore, Abby Norris, Brie Bumpus, Lydia Givens, Nicole Davis, Kate Dickey

# Cheerleading

Winter Sophomore



Ashley Hoogenakker, Natalie Cresta, Ally Strawhacker Row 2: Amy Kruger, Ashley Brown, Taylor Probst

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# Cheerleading

Winter Varsity



Cicely Gordon, Shelby Brose, Amber Smith, Holly Kimball, Alex Swanson Row 2: Emily O'Keefe, Mickey Greene, Alicia Watrous, Kate Dickey, Natalie Cunningham, Addie Iler Row 3: Colby Lindsey, Nicole Davis, Lydia Givens, Rachel Winterbottom, Brie Bumgar, Alyssa Turnquist

# Cheerleading

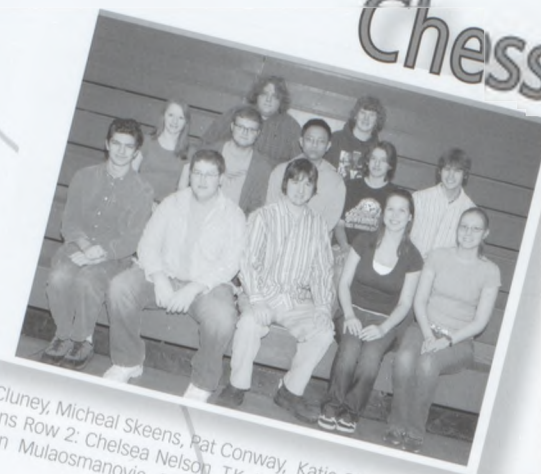


Hilary Mumma, Holly Kimball, Shelby Brose, McKenzie Hans, Jessica Christiansen Row 2: Alex Swanson, Addie Iler, Kate Dickey, Paula Cruzen, Alicia Watrous

Wrestling

# Chess

Club



Eric Cluney, Micheal Skeens, Pat Conway, Katie Githens, Megan Hankins Row 2: Chelsea Nelson, T.K. Kanauss, Patrick Xu, Jesse Kc, Ben Mulaosmanovic, Row 3: Danny Fitzgerald, Ian White

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# Choir

## Chamber



Trista Woody, Michelle Wallace, Rachel Winterbottom, Grant Dippold, Nick Scholten, Lindsay Tosch, Elie Sams Row 2: Bryn Start, Kari Dockum, Lauren Kacere, Liz Fuller, Alan Nagel, Jenny Pray Row 3: Matt Carlson, Cicely Gordon, Maddie Fiedler, Emily Seda, Rex Davidson, Brian Smith, John Miller Row 4: Derek Furrow, Chris Cline, Matt Burch, Brad Halbersma, Dan Haight, Ryan Campbell, Julia Steggerda

# Choir

## Concert Boys



Matt Burch, Sam Leahy, Rex Davidson, Derek Furrow, Danny Heldt, Ryan Campbell, Nick Scholten, Alan Nagel Row 2: Eric Tubbs, Todd Sexton, Phil Patten, Dan Haight, Matt Carlson, Sam Grasso, Brian Smith Row 3: J.R. Gray, Connor Elmitt, John Miller, Bryn Start, Chris Cline, Scott Cronin, Tyler Wengert, Grant Dippold Row 4: Chris Williamson, Chris Wilkinson, John Pietzman, Bryce McClure, Klay Queck, Brad Halbersma, Jacob Vander Ploeg, Nick Hunsberger, Eric Lekwa

# Choir

## Concert Girls



Kari Dockum, Leah King, Trista Woody, Becky Heffling, Michelle Wallace, Jennalee Williams, Rachel Winterbottom Row 2: Kelsey Kramer, Audrey Henning, Maddie Fiedler, Liz Fuller, Laura Messerly, Sammie Johnson, Hannah Wagner Row 3: Brianna Upton, Jenny Pray, Cicely Gordon, Emily Seda, Lauren Kacere, Julia Steggerda, Emory Sams Row 4: Alle Moffit, Lauren Stensrud, Lindsay Tosch, Megan Bendiken, Emily Kuster, Meredith Geels

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# Choir

Mixed Altos



Jessica Worley, Anna Kuris, Ryan Birmingham, Addie Iler, Alysun Mayer Row 2: Courtney Aldridge, Sam Lungman, Taylor Chesnut, Hannah Clarkson, Chelsea Kumbera, Staci Smith Row 3: Taylor Martz, Elina Malychova, Tara McCulley, Nickie Meyer, Leah Bole Row 4: Ashley Elliot, Kelly Mackley, Renee Durbala, Leah Peterson, Mandy McWhorter, Amie Roeser

# Choir

Mixed Boys



Josh Danielson, Stu Leahy, Christian Haas, Jarrod Steen, Gabe Tovar, Jeremy Mullen, Dale Cobia Row 2: Matt Murray, Neal Herienk, Austin Gehm, Ryan Jones, Zach Swallow, Tyler Waltz, Zach Jensen, John Kruger Row 3: Kory Plagge, Josh Wendt, Nate Johnson, J.T. Minor, Zach Buckley, Chris Hohwieler, Nick Overton, Eric Walter Row 4: Nate McGinley, Josh Hanson, Tucker Vasey, Steven Ostiguy, Andrew Selberg, Ben Hjelmaas, Michael Friesth, Adam Badgley

# Choir

Mixed Sopranos



Katie Zimmer, Lesley Tosch, Devyn Lenaghan, Erin Smalley, Shelby Brose, Mollie Kipp, Whitney Wheeler Row 2: Alex Garland, Nicole Jaschen, Stephanie Ivankovich, Allison Randolph, Emily Schwartz, Britney Thompson, Lindsey Timmons, Laureca Landwehr Row 3: Samantha Meyer, Emira Deumic, Molly Hoffman, Cara Blackford, Ashley Williamson, Brianna Ellis, Allison Blakely Row 4: Alex McPherson, Christina Aldrich, Amanda Jones, Taylor Probst, Amanda Gabbert, Kelsey Mitchell

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# Color

## Guard



Taylor Probst, Rachel Bassell, Ashely Williamson, Chirsty Sitzer Row 2: Jessica Gambrel, Brianna Ellis, Megan Bendixen, Alyssa Burcham, Julia Steggerda

# Cross Country



Neal Herink, Alfred Norte, Mitch Blanchard, Mike Faley, Andy Hummel, Ryan Bower, Alex Richards, Justin Coaldrake, Matt Knoedel, Thomas Dooley Row 2: Ricky Rodriguez, Soren Hirst, Jordan Handel, Eric Greenfield, Dane Seaberg, Connor Elmitt, Kyle Sievers, Tucker Vasey, Chris Schoper, Grant Jacobson, Steven Ostiguy, Cullen Hirst Row 3: Alex Danebrow, John Hall, Zach Swallow, Derek Furrow, Jay Quick, John Peitzman, Willie Lowe, Mike Schultz, Zach Bruce, Jeremy Mullen, Jeff Bast Row 4: Coach Dave Beason, James Becvar, Alex Grieve, Fred Sohen, Luke Finley, Nate Nuzum, Nick Scholten, Charlie Thuente, Chris Ajluni, Jake Barrington, Nate Ostiguy, Nick Evans, Coach Patrick Mattingly

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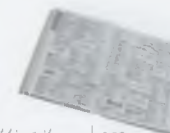
# Cross Country

## Girls



Sarah Timmons, Taylor Grieve, Felicia Hoover, Florentine Noll, Jerralce Williams, Heather Wendel, Anna Lammers, Anne Ruebelke, Carly Hammer, Kelsey Hyde, Erica Weirich, Kristen Strawhacker, Grace Meiners Row 2: Rachel Lang, Amanda Walker-King, Julia Binnie, Ashley Quick, Sammy McConeghey, Laura Hilby, Jocelyn Kleinschmidt, Kayla Schuster, Maggie Thilges, Carly O'Keefe, Chelsea Bisenius, Katherine Burggraaf, Molly Kipp, Staci Smith, Allison Kane, Krista Shoeman, Amy Kruger, Emily Kane, Megan Jung, Jordan Sandquist, Amy Lovejoy, Anna Belner Row 4: Coach Chris Siewert, Kan Ross, Nickie Meyer, Emily Schwartz, Amanda Philp, Aessa Burcham, Jimmy Ajluni, Liz Fuller, Elena Malycheva, Justine Ayres, Lauren Samson, Coach Pat Hennes

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## Dance Team



Amanda Gabbert, Lyssa Bailey, Sarah Hurm, Emalie Johnson,  
Brittany Faley Row 2: Taylor Coakley, Emily Coy, Taylor Westercamp

## Dance Team



Varsity

Audrey Henning, Allie Lindsey, Bethany Christenson,  
Courtney Coakley, Emily Hurm, Rachel Bassel,  
Jessica Gambrel Row 2: Tana Friesth, Katie Norris,  
Alyssa Buckley, Averi Guidessessi, Deidre Spray

## Fencing



Club

Dylan Cue, Brittany Deal, Sarah Timmons, Chelsea Nelson,  
Nicolette Ward Row 2: Shawna Polen, Adam Helgeson,  
Ethan Nutter, Kevin Sullivan Row 3: Evan Stone, Pat Conway

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# Football

Sophomore



Dustin Fish, Eric Walter, Max Bratrud, Justin Hoellein, Chris Hohwieler, Jake Heil, Jacob Clabaugh, Nick Smith Row 2: Ryan Jones, Matt Temple, Greg Larpernter, Brad Meek, Jake Eggers, Josiah South, Tank Waters Row 3: Cody Catron, Derek Foster, Keaton Schuck, Jake Baumgartner, Shaun Miller, Brock Mills, Duane Hatfield, Austin Jensen Row 4: Alan Nagel, Adam Badgley, Frank You, John Puffet, Chris Gail, Michael Friesth, Michael Eddinger Row 5: Malcom Doyle, Tyler Kubic, Jared Alfred, Brandon Soda, Ben Hjelmås, James Hillyard, Andrew Selberg, Bruce Agurnes Row 6: Coach Jeff South, Coach Zac Christiansen, Coach Brian Vaughn

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# Football

Varsity



Scott Cronin, Cody Verhuel, Danny Cahill, David Temple, Jeremmy Johnson, Jonathan Bunting, Matt Bengston, Kyle Thomann Row 2: Jack McIlhon, Aaron Schultz, Kevin Christopher, Josh Camos, Tyler Shannon, Kellen Johnson, Nick Hunsberger, Matt Ogren, Jesse Smith, Adam Gillaspay Row 3: Jordan Wilson, Tyler Wengert, Sam Grasso, Matt Dickerson, Nick Bass, Ben Bruckshaw, Sam Bjorholm, Trevor Haden, Jonathan Hitt, Lee Yocum Row 4: Hunter Warne, Jake Highfill, Thomas Lashier, Josh South, Phil Evans, Zach Kendall, Taylor Young, Evan Summa, Derek Reicks, Brian Bjerk Row 5: Austin Strawhacker, Troy Dubay, Patrick Ackelson, Kyle Schares, Kyle Hanson, Michael Elming, Joe Pavelka, Pat Shockey, John Kraber Row 6: Michael Lunn, Daniel Chapman, J.R. Gray, Nick Sedgley, Casey Randel, Corey Ramsey, Frank Baxter, Jonathan Nelson, Ryan Alfred Row 7: Nick Hinkle, Zach Guyer, James Stone, Nathan Clock, Corey Pierce, Chris Durand, Zach Tucker, Darin Davis, Justin Amick Row 8: Coach Brent Ksiazek, Coach Brian Lutter, Coach Rod Wiebers, Coach Adam Hulten, Coach Zac Christensen, Coach Brian Woodley, Coach Jeff South, Coach Mark Tegels, Coach Brian Vaughan, Coach Mike McCune, Coach Nick Durand, Coach Joe Woodley Row 9: Neal Rydberg, Joel Rydberg, Chris Soroaka, Addie Iler, Karaissa Andrews, Bailey Vinmar

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## French Club

Juniors/Seniors



Cory Gagne, Megan Davis, Brianna Stone, Colleen Kindley, Courtney Coakley, Sammy McConeghey  
Row 2: Doug Haeble, Maddie Fielder, Row 3: Katie Ariel, Landwehr, Taylor Grieve, Row 3: Katie Luksetich, Rachel Stanley, Kate Dickey, Leah Kron

## French Club

Sophomores



Allie Chen, Bree Amos, Teddy Kirchner, Cody Lenz  
Row 2: Jesse Koughn, Jared Colven, Heidi Bibler

## Golf

Boys



Hunter Beck, Tyler Waltz, Justin McCormick, Dain Opland, Ben Soleszinski, Matt Kretzinger, Bryce Johnson, Mark Anderson, Brad Cleveland, Ryan Lay  
Row 2: Matt Lowder, Miles Summa, Joey Gowdy, Brent Goodenow, Collin Coughlin, Ryan Dickey, Jordan Olson, Chris Williamson, Jared Walahoski, Mike Slavin, Brady Johnson

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# Golf

## Girls



Erin Funk, Lexi Evans, Annette Beswick, Stephanie Solis, Audrey Conrad Row 2: Lauren Doherty, Ashley Williamson, Kate Dickey, Brennan Winget, Brittney Thompson Row 3: Coach Dan Borich, Lesley Tosch, Brianna Upton, Olivia Schiefelbein, Paige Greenfield, Meredith Freese, Emily Kane, Coach Vicki Borich

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# GSA



Chloe Coulter, Lauren Kacere, Maddie Fiedler, Josh Merritt, Brittany Deal, Cody Lenz, Adam Helgeson Row 2: Ben Schurr, Hannah Wagner, Brianna Upton, Makea Sanders, Kelsey Bowen, Megan Browning, Nicolette Ward Row 3: Heidi Bibler, Lauren Rogers, Larrissa French, Julia Zhang, Hannah Levine, Tana Friesth, Josh Wenndt

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# JETS



David Zhang, Emily Kuster, George Vardakis, Katie Griffens, Patrick Xu Row 2: Megan Browning, Taylor Grieve, Dane Seaburg, Ben Mulasomancic, Row 3: Troy Shu, Ian White, Doug Haelele

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# Junior/Senior



Sarah Froelich, Rachel Stanely, Cory Gagne, Alle Moffitt  
Row 2: Matt Burch, Scott Cronin, Sam Leahy, Derek Furrow

Board

# Knowledge



Tana Friesth, Brittany Deal, Senuri Jayatilake, Kelsey Bowen, Katie Githens, Megan Hankins, George Vardaxis, Patrick Xu Row 2: Josh Merritt, Adam Helgeson, Dylan Cue, Neal Herink, Sam Parker, Zac Stevens, Alan Nagel, Ben Mulaosmanovic Row 3: Jenny Ajluni, Megan Browning, Azra Baganovic, Nicolette Ward, Hannah Emmerson, Amra Beganovic, Ethan Nutter Row 4: Dane Seaburg, Erik Anderson, Ian White

Bowl

# Math



Dane Seaburg, George Vardaxis, Ian White

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# Mock



Trial

Doug Heffling, Lauren Kagere, Julia Zhang, Tyler Foster-Stavneak, Hannah Levine, Brittany Deal, Sarah Timmons, Michelle Cross Row 2: Azra Baganovic, Amra Bagonavic, Kelsey Kramen, Tana Friesth, Megan DeLanoit, Josh Merrit, Nikki Ward, Senuri Jayatilika, Neal Herink Row 3: Alan Nagel, Daniel Chapman, Cory Gagne, Torey Robinson, Hannah Emmerson, Chelsea Nelson, Sarah Engstrom, Kayla Gathercole, Alma Jovancevic, Jenny Ajluni Row 4: Tucker Vasey, Sam Grasso, Betsy Pilkington, Racheal Megan Hankins, Katie Githens, Allison Meyer, Zac Stevens, Amy Lovejoy, Alex Garland, Mindy Dickerson, Leah Belknap. Row 5: Dylan Cue, Ehan Nutter, Tim Clay, Racheal Binner, Adam Helgeson, Brandon Soda, Ryan Jones, Frank Niu, Steven Crain, Kevin Shi.

# NCYL



Taylor Gowey, Kiley Dewhurst, Micah Casey, Abby Davis, Emeri Sams, Brianna Upton. Row 2: Sarah Froelich, Kelsey Kramer, Emily Kuster, Jay Quick, Scott Cronin, Geroege Vardaxis. Row 3: Kristen Strawhacker, Grace Meiners, Anne Ruebbelke, Makea Sanders

# Newspaper



Larissa French, Jenna Wilson, Bryan Lippincott, Karl Dockum, Sam Leahy, Chris Ajluni, Stephanie Ivankovich. Row 2: Lauren Profit, Kelsey Hyde, Mike Slusark, Kyle Hanson, Alex Guns, Caroline Byrd, Cicely Gordon, Brittany Deal, Jordan VanEssen Row 3: Tina Lee, Dawn Wilkenson, Chelsea Nelson, Nels Engblon, Lee Yocum, Dan Haight, Austin Hartsook Row 4: Veronica Roshek, Allison Kane, Amy Lovejoy, Shawna Polen, Torey Robinson, Brennan Winget, Kiera Morrill, Drew Houpp, Emily Conn, Amanda Lower

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# NHS



Grace Meiners, Kristen Strawnacker, Kelsey Hyde, Teresa Davis, Hannah Wagner, Brianna Upton, Emeri Sams, Heather Wendel, Annette Beswick, Row 2: Cassidy Williams, Anne Ruebelke, Lauren Whitney, Amanda Lower, John Dzutiak, Julia Zhang, Tana Friesth, Hannah Levine, Tyler Foster-Staveneak, Row 3: Ernily Kuster, Katie Lusketic, Rachel Bassell, Katie Albers, Dane Seaberg, Patctick Xu, Lisa Heath, Makya Sanders, Kiley Dewhurst. Row 4: Kelsey Kramer, Jenna Winzenberg, Kathryn Huen, Alex Yang, Felicia Hoover, Saliya Wjeratne, Krista Bowers, Nate Nuzum, Eric Reese. Row 5: Becky Heffling, Larissa French, Taylor Grieve, Megan Browning, George Vardaxis, Joe Cate, Abby Davis, Micah Casey. Row 6: John Miller, Mike Slusark, Dan Haight, Nick Scholten, David Kurns, Jordan Olson, Connor Emmet, Scott Cronin, Eric Tubbs.

# Play



Brittany Deal, Nicolette Ward, Emeri Sams, Ben Schnurr, Rebekah Schnackel, Rebecca Stoeker Row 2: Cody Lyons, Josh Merritt, Frank Baxter, Abi Bisenius, Julia Steggerda Row 3: Jordan Van Essen, Sarah Ingstrom, Chloe Coulter, Heidi Bibbler, Austin Golightly, Ryan Birmingham

# Fall/Spring

# SADD



Larissa French, Megan Browning, Kaitlyn Norris, Renee Pike Row 2: Nicki Ward, Felicia Hoover



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# SAIL



April Adams, Sarah Froelich, Taylor Govey, Kiley Dewhurst, Micah Casey, Abby Davis, Katie Howe, Hannah Levine, Katelyn Sundae, Darin Davis, Nikki Sullivan, Jessica Worely, Colleen Shannon Row 2: Annette Beswick, Lauren Whitney, Emily Kuster, Tyler Shannon, Jay Quick, Scott Cronin, Sam Leahy, Chris Ajluni, Lee Yocum, Austin Hartsook, Makayla Coulson Row 3: Matt Goodhue, Tyler Waltz, Micheal Lund, Natalie Cunningham, Chris Cline, Molly Mellinger, Anna Kurns, Kelsey Bowen, Senyuri Jayatileka, Paul Adam Row 4: Nicole Jaschen, Molly Hoffman, Jessica Rice, Kayleigh Gabbard, Stacy Smith, Sammy McConaghey, Ciera Lundgren, Stephanie Ivankovich, Nate McGinnley, Brian Smith, Connor Elmitt, John Peitzman, Julia Zhang, Shelby Brose

# Show Choir



Innovation

Klay Queck, Jennallee Williams, John Miller, Becky Heffling, Alan Nagel, Trista Woody, Sam Leahy, Rachel Spurgin, Eric Lekwa, Kari Dockum Row 2: Derek Furrow, Julia Steggerda, Todd Sexton, Hailie Zulaica, Phil Patten, Leah King, John Peitzman Row 3: Eric Tubbs, Cicely Gordon, Rex Davidson, Lindsey Tosch, Chris Cline, Ciera Lundgren, Matt Carlson, Emily Seda, J.R. Gray, Emeri Sams Row 4: Chris Wilkinson, Rachel Winterbottom, Sam Grasso, Liz Fuller, Matt Burch, Jenny Pray, Bryce McClure, Lauren Kacere Row 5: Connor Elmitt, Audrey Henning, Brian Smith, Madie Fiedler, Megan Bendixon, Scott Cronin, Emily Kuster, Nick Hunsberger, Danielle Hudson, Tyler Wengert, Brianna Upton

# Science



Club

Dane Seaburg, George Vardais, Megan Browning, Doug Heffling Row 2: David Zheng, Ian White, Troy Shu

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# Show Choir



Synergy

Allison Kane, Christian Haas, Devon Lanahan, Zac Stevens, Stacy Smith, Kory Plagge, Allison Mayer, Jarrod Steen, Leah Bole Row 2 J.T. Meiner, Natalie Cunningham, Jeremy Mullen, Brianna Ellis, Tyler Waltz, Addie Iler, Gabe Tover, Caroline Byrd, Zach Dicken, Hannah Clarkson Row 3 Allison Blakely, Zach Swollow, Jen Pergolski, Nate McGinley, Ashley Williamson, Josh Wenneidt, Taylor Chestnut, Jacob Vanderploeg, Mandy McWherter, Andrew Seberg, Nickie Meyer Row 4 Leslie Tosch, Austin Ghom, Shelly Brose, Danny Heldt, Emily Schwartz, Nate Johnson, Sam Jungman, Aaron Meyer, Karissa Andrews, Mat Murrey, Lindsey Timmons Row 5 Eric Walter, Betsy Pilkington, Michael Friesth, Chelsea Kumbern, Christian Schopper, Megan Davis, Tucker Vasey, Meredith Geels, Steven Ostiguy, Taylor Martz

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# Soccer

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# Soccer



Boys JV

Caleb Wagner, Ryan Dickey, David Hellmer, Phap Lam, Adam Frakes, Jeremy Mullen Row 2: Jacob Pfundheller, Sam Parker, Tyler Walz, Jared Colvin, Brett Brones, Brad Meek, Trevor Haden, Jake Heil, Zach Jensen Row 3: Coach Russ Fortune, Cody Walkup, Nick Smith, Justin Sparland, Zach Dicken, K.C. Foshe, Kory Plagge, Justin Dierks

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# Soccer



Boys Varsity

Jared Nelson, Josh Camos, Danny Sigmund, Matt Carlson, Tyler Smith, Quinn Bailey, Aaron Schultz, Alex Christensen Row 2: Jacob Pfundheller, Nick Bass, Chase Baumgartner, Pat Shockey, Ross Jennings, Trevor Haden, Brain Smith, Jimmy Trizzell, Nick Scholten Row 3: Coach Matt Todd, Ryan Lay, Alex Kem, Derek Furrow, Jennes White, Dustin Pirie, Ernad Muratovic, Mark Anderson, Matt Burch, Ricky Rodriguez

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# Soccer



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Brooke Egly, Jordan Burger, Maria Johnson, Sydney Christenson, Kayla Ward, Paige Doherty, Anna Kurns, Alicia Deal, Sasha Markland Row 2: Jessica Martinson, Cicely Gordon, Alyssa Cook, Mary Russell, Crystal Lewis, Amanda Hatfield, Ajla Sudic, Jen Pargulski, Allison Randolph, Ella Heinike, Coach Stephanie Carveron

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# Soccer



Kerri Drelbelkeis, Jess Johnson, Ashley Wright, Jordana Skarphol, Anna Belner, Allie Withmore Row 2: Lauren Wolk, Hanna Souhrada, Sara Johnson, Andi Cameron, Nikki Sullivan, Emily Schwartz, Lauren Whitney, Amanda Whitney Row 3: Taylor Emine, Julia Manning, Jordan Busimas, Alina Rucker, Lauren Samson, Tessa Fenimore, Sarah Buller, Emily O'Keefe

Girls JV

# Soccer



Abby Davis, Becky Heffling, Niki Feaster, Colleen Shannon, Leslie Ware. Row 2: Kate Nielsen, Dayna Jansen, Micah Casey, Nicole Postel, Erica Tucker, Amanda Lower, Meredith Manning, Heather Wendel. Row 3: Carly O'Keefe, Sarah Schultz, Abby Gumina, Kelsey Kovacevich, Madison Thompson, Jennifer Ross

Girls Varsity

# Softball



Sophomore

Brittney Thompson, Tara McCulley, Kayla Ross, Taylor Vines, Steph Trail, Leah Peterson, Meredith Pace Row 2: Alyssa Christenson, Kari Ross, Cassie Clark, Annie Gray, Sarah Blank, Brianne Westlake

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# Softball

Varsity



# Student



Emily Kuster, Abigail Morris, Makenzie Lang, Libby Reichling,  
Sarah Peppemeier, Jenna Jewell, Brittany Curtis, Cassidy Clark  
Row 2: Michelle Schoop, Leah Embrey, Veronika Roshek, Holly  
Von Fumetti, Abby Sonner, Amy Phillips, Alece Gustafson, Liz  
Fuller Row 3: Kayla Birmingham, Nicole Schoop, Renee Pike,  
Brittany Clark, Alexa Guessford, Kari Dockum, Brianna Benson

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# Swimming

Boys



Council

Soren Hirst, Jacob Dolislager, Tyler Thompson, Colton  
Schaben, Alan Nagel, DJ Abram Row 2: Clayton Thomas,  
Blake Johnson, Greg Monson, Caleb Wagner, Brad  
Waldorff, Patrick Albright, Nick Staub Row 3: Austin  
Foster, Charlie Thuyente, John Waldorf, Scott Heren, Cullen  
Hirst, Rex Davidson, Jeremy Biggs, Austin Foster, Trevor  
Howard Row 4: Rob Bany, Michael Preyer, Levi Dolieslager,  
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# Swimming



Girls

Kim Linde, Lindsay Taylor, Kelsey Staub, Samantha Sweeney, Lizzy Gerdis, Kara Highfill, Madison Mandsager Kelly Mackey, Taylor Erwine, Alison Blakely, Row 2: Christina Aldrich, Lindsay Timmons, Stacey Reberski, Julia Manning, Steph Ferguson, Alana Krzyzak, Rachel Oybol, Kiley Kuntz Row 3: Erika McLaughlin, Zoey Crandell, Kelsey Miller, Meredith Luksetich, Anna Kurns, Hannah Dankbar, Sasha Markland, Olivia Pace, Alex Gustavson Row 4: Lauren Chesmore, Hannah Craig, Meredith Geels, Brie Bumpus, Annette Beswick, Katie Luksetich, Sarah Cutler, Krista Tippin, Hannah Smith, Nicole Helick.

# Tennis



Boys

Ryan Palmer, Drew Houpp, Paul Adam, Fred Zhao Row 2: Adam Summitt, David Zhang, George Vardaxis, Petros Vardaxis, Orin Xie Row 3: Michael Lunn, Bryce McClure, Phil Patten, Tucker Vasey, Marc Thies

# Tennis



Girls

Rachel Casciato, Krista Bowers, Julia Zhang, Hannah Levine, Gabbi Warrick, Katherine Buegrauf, Meri Russell, Ana Rivera Row 2: Kyle Kinsey, Brianna Stone, Lauren Lund, Megan Bendixen, Colleen Kinsey, Taylor Coughlin, Kristine Williams, Lauren Rodgers, Susan Clausen, Rachel Winterbottom Row 3: Nikki Kyllonen, Alicia Deal, Maggie Thiges, Amanda Paszkiewicz, Haley Johnson, Emily Kuster, Rachel Lang, Aleece Gustafson, Megan Roth, Jenny Ajluni Row 4: Coach Mitzzy Heatherton, Amy Bowers, Megan Browning, Megan Kellogg, Florencia Ackerman, Megan Browning, Megan Kellogg, Florencia Lorenzelli, Scorza, Taylor Probst, Coach Ben Knight

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## Boys

# Track



## Girls

# TSA



Scott Cronin, Matt Dickerson, Zach Larimer, Jay Quick, Ben Jacobsen, Nick Smith, Cory Pierce, Row 2: Dane Seaberg, Alfred Norte, Ben Hjelmaas, Chris Wilkenson, Brock Lutes, Dominique Jones, Walter Githens, Tommy Larsen, Row 3: Brandon Soda, Drew Wilson, Derek Foster, John Puffet, Chris Gail, Kyle Sievers, Brian Bjerk, Justin Polson, Row 4: Ryan Bower, Fred Shi, Lucas Bunche, Austin Pulsen, Andrew Milren, Philip Mortens, Micheal Kalamarynski, Row 5: Matt Konedal, Austin Looper, Travis Fish, Tyler Patten, Chad Wireck, James Tran

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Veronica Roshek, Leah Embrey, Alexa Guessford, Jordan Sandquist, Laura Hilby, Kristen Strawhacker, Row 2: Sam Jungman, Taylor Chesnut, Staci Smith, Whitney Wheeler, Kari Queck, Annie Gray, Emily Schwartz, Jenalee Williams, Kari Dockum, Alexis Buchanan, Row 3: Molly Kipp, Amanda Phillipph, Ashley Quick, Jenna Devens, Libby Elmitt, Allie Willis, Gabrielle Liljedahl, Julia Binnie, Christina Andewig, Hannah Janes, Allison Lindroth, Chanlea Wilkes, Jocelyn Klienschmidt, Coach Chris Siewert, Row 4: Coach Brian Lutter, Nikki Meyer, Carly Hammer, Erica Weirich, Taylor Gowey, Anna Lammers, Florentine Noll, Krista Shoeman, Leah Peterson, Amada Walker-King, Kelsea Johnson, Row 5: Amy Lovejoy, Obsie Birru, Amy Kruger, Sammy McConeghey, Grace Meiners, Kelsey Hyde, Danielle Hudson, Teresa Davis, Meredith Pace, Cassie Curtis, Taylor Grieve, Alyssa Burcham, Felicia Hoover, Coach Pat Hennes

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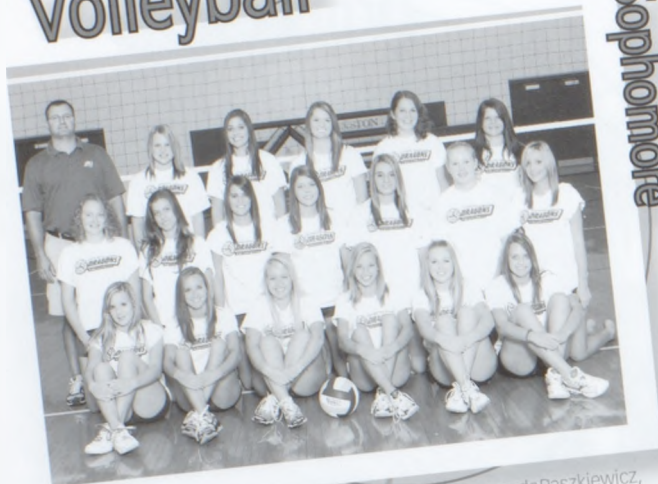
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# Volleyball

Sophomore



Bree Amos, Taylor Chestnut, Maddie Norrell, Amanda Paszkiewicz, Sam Jungman, Haley Johnson, Row 2: Olivia Schiefelbein, Anna Jovancevic, Annie Gray, Michelle Ness, Vedrana Forcan, Meredith Pace, Zerina Duric, Row 3: Coach Rick Brooks, Tara McCulley, Taylor Vines, Amanda Whitney, Leah Peterson, Kerri Dreibeis

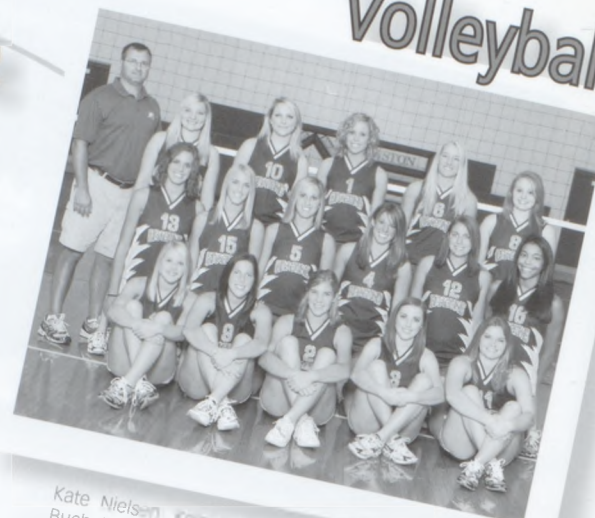
# Volleyball



Michele Schoop, Leslie Tinnermeier, Leah Embrey, Veronica Roshek, Second Row: Emily Shoeman, Brianna Stone, Taylor Coughlin, Colleen Kinsey, Chelsea Kumbera, Row 2: Lindsey Tosch, Nicole Schoop, Holly Von Fumetti, Renee Pike, Brianne Benson, Coach Rick Brooks

# Volleyball

Varsity



Kate Nielsen, Kelsey Kovacevich, Emily Foster, Sarah Bucholz, Erica Warren, Row 2: Taylor Knuth, Kar Queck, Abby Sonner, Lauren Whitney, Cassidy Clark, Colby Lindsay, Row 3: Coach Rick Brooks, Lindsey Cosgriff, Paige Greenfield, Sarah Froehlich, Susan Clausen, Abbie Symonds

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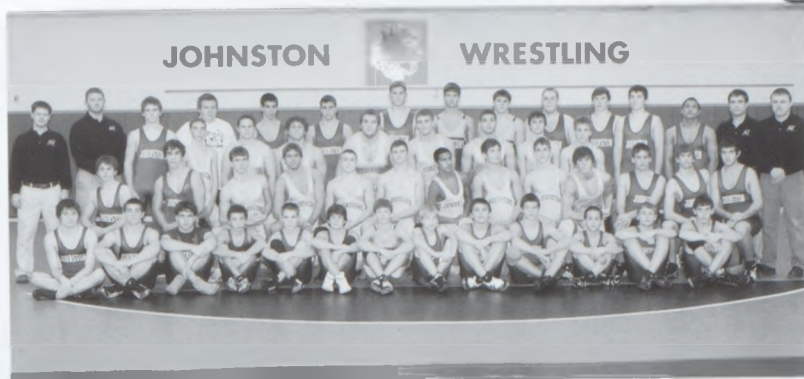
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# Wrestling



Ben Davis, Gage Gillaspey, Dwight Lykins, Chris Emehiser, Ben Cigan, Tony Dooley, Sam Reed, Ben Warrick, Armin Muranovic, Luke Bubeck, Stephen, Schaffer, Andrew Lovell, Mike Faley Row 2: Matt Temple, Jake Wood, Todd Sexton, Kyle Thommann, Josh South, Eric Reese, Ricky Rodriguez, Kyle McDowell, Adam Richards, Shawn Dickerson, Andrew McCrea, Tom Hinchliff, Chris Ajluni Row 3: Coach Brian Reece, Coach Brian Lutter, Brock Mills, Nick Hinkle, James Becvar, Kory McCracken, Kyle Schares, Derek Reicks, Taylor Young, Tim Glass, Andy Hummel Derek Wright, Jesse Poor Thunder, Coach Mark Schillerstrom, Coach Quincy Snell

# Yearbook



Caitlin Larkin, Katie Norris, Amanda Gabbert, Grace Meiners, David Zorn, Dani Stansberry, Megan Kellogg Row 2: Ciera Lundgren, Bethany Christenson, Felicia Hoover, Megan Browning, Nikki Ward, Emily Roeser, Alle Moffitt, Sam Dearden Row 3: Sammy McConeghey, Antonio Rodriguez, Allison McGrew, Hannah Souhrada, Azra Feriz, Leah Kron Row 4: Cory Gagne, Erin Funk, Olivia Schiefelbein, Abby Weaver, Kiley Dewhurst, Matthew Courtney

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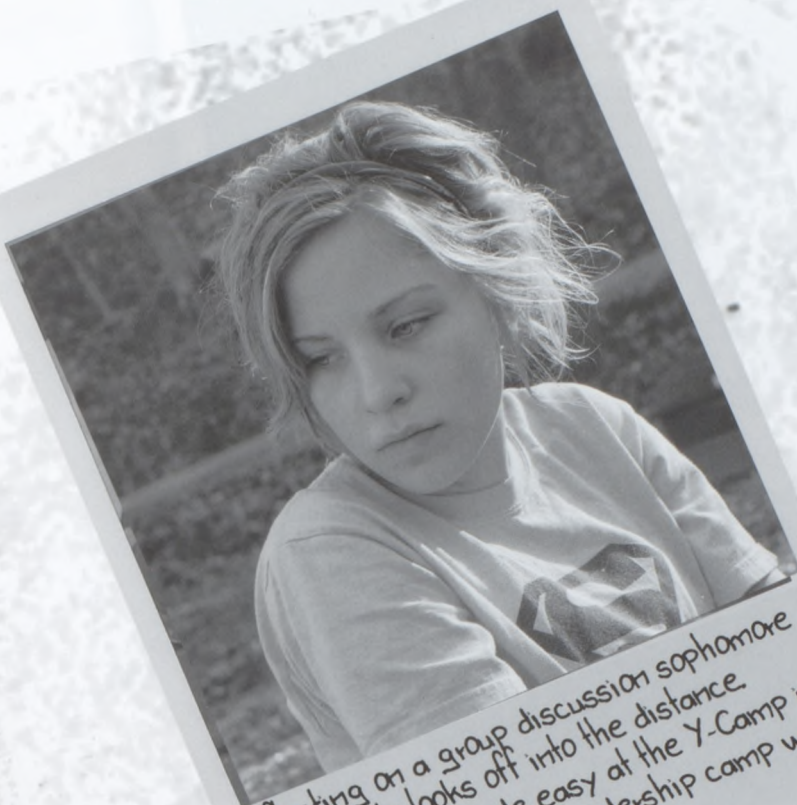
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blown  
away



Reflecting on a group discussion sophomore Taylor Martz looks off into the distance. Reflection was made easy at the Y-Camp in Boone where the SAIL leadership camp was held each year.



Now as we close our book we are one year older and all the more wiser. We survived the orange cones and the roadblocks, the illnesses, the blizzards and pouring rain. We welcomed the invasion of technology into our classrooms, hallways, lunchroom, and the commons. We triumphed over the track, the fields, the stage, and the classrooms. We found our way through books and hallways and battled with final exams; we stood at the top of the ranks in AP testing, and proved our worth in clubs and sports alike. We broke tradition when the first Gay-Straight Alliance submitted their contract to the school board and stood up for what we believed was right. As we closed the doors of Johnston High School after yet another year we took with us pride, some tears and a little bit of courage to face the ever changing world. Spread by David Zorn. Copy by Kiley Dewhurst.



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photo by Grace Meiners

Senior Sarah Froelich, along with Senators Leonard Boswell, Hillary Clinton, and East High School's principal Mike Zelenovich salute the flag while singing the national anthem. Froelich attended Clinton's Conversation with Iowa at East High School's gym Jan. 27.

blown

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# INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

## National Quil and Scroll

Sam Schroeder - sports photography  
Alle Moffitt - graphics  
Liz Kirk - academic photography

## State Awards

### First

Cory Gagne - student life photography  
Alle Moffitt - sports layouts  
Grace Meiners - academic copy  
Liz Kirk - organization layouts  
Sam Schroeder - sports photography

### Second

Bekka Broeker - academics layout  
Alle Moffitt - special feature copy  
Nate Gonner - sports copy

### On-the-spot contest

Abby Weaver - photography



Spring

Felicia Hoover  
Olivia Schiefelbein  
Mary Grace Meiners



Winter



Fall

Megan Browning, and Antonio Rodriguez



Summer

Nikki Ward  
Emily Roeser



Spring

Allison McGrew, and Sammy McConeghey

# GROUP AWARDS

## National Scholastic Press Association

All American 2006

## NSPA Best of Show

Nashville - Seventh Place

# STAFF

**editors:** Grace Meiners and Kiley Dewhurst

**photo editor:** David Zorn

**design editor:** Alle Moffitt

**sub-editors:** Ciera Lundgren, Megan Browning,  
Abby Weaver, Cory Gagne, and Leah Kron

**staff:** Megan Browning, Bethany Christenson,  
Matthew Courtney, Sam Dearden, Kiley Dewhurst,  
Azra Feriz, Erin Funk, Amanda Gabbert, Cory  
Gagne, Felicia Hoover, Megan Kellogg, Leah Kron,  
Caitlin Larkin, Ciera Lundgren, Sammy  
McConeghey, Allison McGrew, Grace Meiners, Alle  
Moffitt, Katie Norris, Antonio Rodriguez, Emily  
Roeser, Olivia Schiefelbein, Hanna Southana, Dani  
Stansberry, Nikki Ward, David Zorn, Grace Meiners



# IT'S A REVOLUTION

this year we're going to **blow you away.**

Wow. Its been a crazy year! By the time you hit this page you probably noticed that our book is completely different from previous years. You might not have even recognized it. Rebels that we are, we decided to blow away (excuse the pun) our old ways of creating yearbooks, and make something totally new. We listened to your wants of a "cooler" book, and we agreed with you. So we decided to take action.

It all started in the beginning of the summer when the masterminds of the design team decided to hang out at Starbucks (for more hours then we can legally mention) and redo the WHOLE setup of our book, because we felt that the old system just wasn't cutting it. Our goal was to make the yearbook more like a scrapbook of the year so you could follow the events of your life in order, and thus the beautiful idea of arranging the book in seasons was invented over many three-pump caramel frappachinos. It wasn't easy though, completely rearranging the ladder of a yearbook is a task that can truly only be appreciated by Kiley.

After some fights and many different trial runs at themes (thank you to Nikki, Kayla, and Megan who pushed our buttons and made us find a better theme) "blown away" finally was settled on at a very serious meeting with the knights of the round yearbook table in Alle's basement. Now as you follow along through the book you can see all the crazy amounts of things that had changed at our school during the year (and there was a TON!).

We didn't just stop at the layouts however we had David Zorn to thank for the amazing cover printed with four colors on linen, (even if he did do it the day before it was due) and

the endsheets are done by Alle Moffitt. They are in black and white ink and contain pictures from two ancient polaroid cameras.

Our newly designed 222-paged baby returned to us in the Fall 2007 straight off the Herff Jones printing press in Logan, Utah. If you were cheap you bought the yearbook for \$39, but if you really wanted one of those fancy shmancy shiny name plates you coughed up \$44.

The book wasn't always smooth sailing though, and there was no way we could have done it with out of tons of help! We would love to thank the Walsworth representative who generously donated a plethora of new ideas through various yearbook materials which helped us produce the design we have. As well as all the members of the tech cadre for donating us a beautiful brand new printer in a dire time of need. Thanks to Jeff for always coming up and changing Kiley's folders back from private, and thanks to Photo One for group shots, and Herff Jones for individual mugs.

Also thanks to the random (but VERY helpful) customers in Starbucks who told us (very honestly!) what looked good, and what to throw in the trash. And a HUGE thanks to Koth for keeping us sane and organized, and all the sponsors, because without them, we simply wouldn't have a book. Finally thanks to Shipp who kept pushing us all the way toward the goal

The year was filled with a lot of hard work, but it was completely worth it. We did this for you, so we hope you are absolutely loving the new style!! spread by Alle Moffitt

Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall



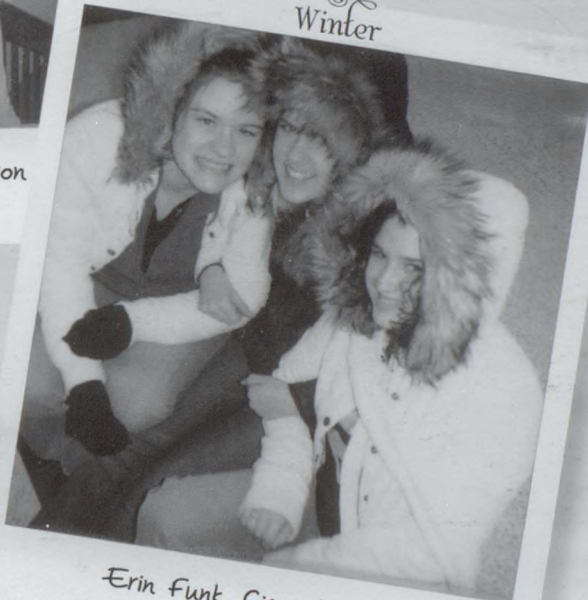
Allison Moffitt, Kiley Dewhurst,  
Abby Weaver, and Cory Gagne

Summer



Matthew Courtney and Leah Kron

Winter



Erin Funk, Ciera Lundgren,  
and Sam Dearden



